

STARS AND STRIPES®

Volume 68, No. 247 ©SS 2009 J

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009

平成12年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊新聞社及び日刊新聞社刊
発行所 星条閣新聞社 〒306-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号

stripes.com \$1.00

General in Iraq has new policy: No pregnancies

BY TERI WEAVER
Stars and Stripes

The Army general commanding U.S. forces in northern Iraq has added pregnancy to the list of prohibitions for personnel under his command.

The policy, which went into effect Nov. 4, makes it possible to face punishment, including a court-martial and jail time, for becoming pregnant or impregnating a servicemember, according to the wording of the policy and confirmations from Army officials.

The rule governs all those serving under Maj. Gen. Anthony Cucolo II, who commands Multi-National Division-North, including Balad, Kirkuk, Tikrit, Mosul and Samarra. According to the order, it is "applicable to all United States military personnel, and to all civilians, serving with, employed by, or accompanying" the military in northern Iraq, with few exceptions.

Someone would violate the policy by "becoming pregnant, or impregnating a soldier, while assigned to the Task Force Marne (Area of Operations), resulting in the redeployment of the pregnant soldier," according to the order.

The policy also applies to married couples who are at war together, Army spokesman Maj. Lee Peters told Stars and Stripes in an e-mail message. Both the husband and wife could face punishment under the policy.

SEE PREGNANT ON PAGE 2

**HEATH DRUZIN**/Stars and Stripes

Seaman Blake Moore, 20, of Knoxville, Tenn., makes trusses for a building at Camp Dwyer in Helmand province, Afghanistan.



More NFL rookies making immediate impact **Back page**

Four U.S. teens to remain in custody in Japan

BY TERI WEAVER
AND HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Four U.S. teens in Japanese custody on suspicion of attempted murder could stay in confinement well into February before facing any criminal charges, according to Japanese legal experts.

The teens — an 18-year-old, a 17-year-old and two 15-year-olds — were arrested Dec. 5, suspected of stringing a rope across a street near Yokota Air Base in August and causing a Japanese motorcyclist to crash. The 23-year-old woman who was driving

suffered a skull fracture and lay in a coma for weeks.

Since their arrests, the teens have been questioned by Japanese prosecutors without the presence of their parents or defense attorneys, military officials said Friday. All are younger than 20 and thus minors under Japanese law, which allows extended detention while a family court judge weighs a recommendation on whether to file charges.

They have been held separately, first at a local police station and now at four separate juvenile detention centers, according to military officials. Their parents — servicemembers in

Yokota units — have visited the teens, but it's unlikely the families can talk alone without guards and interpreters nearby, one legal scholar said.

The prolonged confinement and one-sided interrogations bear little resemblance to judicial procedures in the United States, where suspects can request lawyers and where prosecutors must bring charges quickly in open documents and courtrooms.

Those legal differences are complicated further in this case, which involves suspects who are both U.S. military family members and minors.

SEE TEENS ON PAGE 4

QUOTE

OF THE DAY

"That drawdown from 115,000 to 50,000 is going to happen, no doubt in my mind."

— Adm. Mike Mullen, speaking in Iraq to U.S. troops about the country's March 7 elections and the scheduled troop withdrawal

See story on Page 7

TOP CLICKS
ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our Web site:

1. Command sergeant major pleads guilty after sexual contact with subordinate
2. Some retailers inflate costs to ship to APO addresses
3. Ex-master chief petty officer gets four years in Iraq fuel thefts
4. Iraq to Afghanistan: A radical adjustment
5. Glitch in Army software blanks out claims, but doesn't erase them

COMING

TOMORROW

Science & Medicine

26 operations, 13 patients, 6 days: The ultimate kidney swap



TODAY

IN STRIPES

Advice	18
American Roundup	20-21
Classified	28-29
Comics	Sunday Comics
Crossword	Sunday Comics
Faces	16
Horoscope	18
Opinion	22-23
Parade	17
Perspectives	24
Sports	31-40
Sudoku	18
TV listings	25
Weather	19
Your Money	26-27

Double vision



KEVIN FRAYER/AP

An Afghan boy follows a Marine from the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines "Warlords" during a Friday operation in the Garmsir district of the volatile Helmand province, southern Afghanistan.

Pregnant: Official says policy set to maintain unit cohesion

PREGNANT, FROM PAGE 1

Peters said that, despite the broad wording of the policy, it is meant to apply only when pregnancies affect a unit's ability to perform its mission.

"When a soldier becomes pregnant or causes a soldier to become pregnant through consensual activity," Peters said, "the redeployment of the pregnant soldier creates a void in the unit and has a negative impact on the unit's ability to accomplish its mission. Another soldier must assume the pregnant soldier's responsibilities."

No one has been punished or accused under the new policy, according to Col. David S. Thompson, the inspector general for all soldiers in Iraq.

Military staff judge advo-

cates for both MND-North and Multi-National Force—Iraq have reviewed and approved the policy, according to Peters and Thompson.

"It is a lawful order," Thompson said Friday during a phone interview.

Thompson, who has served 29 of the past 39 months in Iraq as an inspector general, said it's the first time he can recall pregnancy being prohibited.

Armywide policy requires that a pregnant soldier in Iraq be removed from the war theater within 14 days.

Eugene Fidell, who teaches military law at Yale Law School and is president of the National Institute of Military Justice, said he understands the motivations of the order.

Multi-National
Division-North
Task Force Marne

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1

3. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES: In accordance with and in addition to USCENTCOM GO-1B and MNC-I GO-1, the following activities are prohibited ...

s. Becoming pregnant, or impregnating a Soldier, while assigned to Task Force Marne AOR, resulting in the redeployment of the pregnant Soldier.

"You have to assume it's in response to a number of incidents that have caused female GIs to

be sidelined at a time when they can't be spared," he said.

But he said the prohibition is fraught with "a mare's nest of legal, ethical and policy issues" that highlight the discord between personal autonomy and military needs.

"Here you really have issues that go to the core of personal integrity: reproductive rights," he said.

There are also issues of enforcement, Fidell said. The woman is immediately suspect once the pregnancy comes to light, but unless she identifies her partner, the male could go unpunished despite bearing the same culpability under the order.

Stars and Stripes reporter Megan McCloskey contributed to this report. E-mail Teri Weaver at: weavert@pstrips.osd.mil

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised.

Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

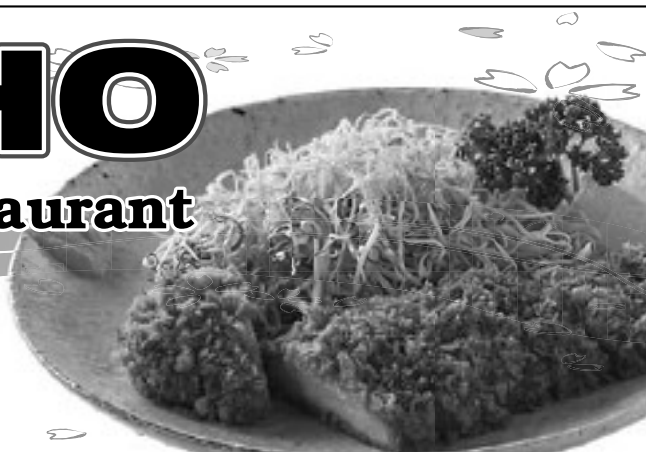
KATSUSHO

Suzuki's New Tonkatsu Restaurant



Front of Gate #2 Yokota AB

TEL: 042-553-7171



Exchanges hit or miss for popular toys

By T.D. FLACK
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — A lot of children on U.S. bases across the Pacific could wake up Christmas morning to some of the hottest selling toys in America.

Officials from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, the Navy Exchange Service Command, and the Marine Corps Exchange all reported selling at least some of the most popular toys of the holiday season.

The exchange at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, stocked seven of the top 10 identified earlier this month by BMO Capital Markets, a North American-based financial service provider.

Gary M. Walls, the chief of the retail/services division at Iwakuni, said during a phone interview last week that his employees have “a lot of input” in deciding which toys to stock and that he’s happy with the variety on the shelves, if not the quantity. Iwakuni even sells the year’s hottest fad product — the Zhu Zhu Pet toy hamster.

However, AAFES senior buyer Rochelle Callaway-McNally said via e-mail from her Dallas-based headquarters that AAFES won’t have the Zhu Zhu toys until February.

She said AAFES carries some of the most popular toys, but “not all items go to all stores.”

At Misawa Air Base, Japan, for example, Moxie Girlz and Nerf Blasters were a one-time buy, meaning “that they are not re-orderable to our stores,” Callaway-McNally said. Those items had already sold out.

But Bakugan spheres and Ultimate Fighting Championship figures can be reordered on weekly shipments at various AAFES stores.

Callaway-McNally also said shipping the products to overseas military bases can be challenging, since 65 percent of AAFES toys are purchased as one-time buys from China. Those toys must first be shipped to the States and then doled out to the overseas stores, she explained, eliminating enough lead time “to meet an increased demand in the middle of the season.”



DAVID J. CARTER/Stars and Stripes

Satsuki McGee looks at a Tag Junior toy Wednesday at the Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, Navy Exchange. NEX officials at Yokosuka said the Tag Junior toys have been one of their biggest sellers this year, matching sales data in the United States.

Top 10 toys of 2009

- Zhu Zhu Pets
- LEGO construction toys
- Bakugan spheres
- Moxie Girlz and Liv fashion dolls
- Mindflex
- Nerf Blasters
- “Toy Story” products
- Printies
- Tag Junior
- Ultimate Fighting Championship figures

Source: BMO Capital Markets

Robert Rice, the AAFES store manager on Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, said LEGO products have been the biggest seller in his store this year.

“We have a 40-foot long LEGO

section, which I feel is definitely meeting customers’ expectations,” he said.

Rice said the Nerf Blasters, another of the hottest toys in the States, are also popular.

Exchange officials at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, said toys began flying off the shelves just before Black Friday, and sales haven’t slowed since.

While the store’s biggest seller — Barbie products — failed to make the U.S. hot list, the Tag Junior toys, which are on the list, have been in high demand, too.

“We try and stay current with the popular items in the States, but this year our inventory was a little unbalanced,” said Pat Thompson, in charge of ordering and merchandising at Yokosuka. “We have a lot of toys, but just not

all of the really popular ones.”

Thompson said that after some items sell out, it can take two to three months before they can get them restocked.

Ginger Baker, whose husband is a Marine stationed on Okinawa, said she had to visit Kadena’s store a few times before she found what she wanted in stock.

“I have found most things,” Brinker said. “The toy section is a lot better than I thought it would be.”

Some shoppers browse electronically for the hottest toys.

Johnnie Davis, a military spouse at Yongsan Garrison, in Seoul, said he did most of his shopping on the Internet because he wasn’t happy with what he found on AAFES’s shelves.

“I am not satisfied with the store’s selection,” he said. “They tell me that the toys that are here is all that they carry, but when I go to Camp Carroll, they tell me differently.”

Veronica Sandoval, whose husband is a Navy corpsman serving in Afghanistan, said the convenience of Internet shopping isn’t the only reason she goes that route.

“At the NEX, it seems like toys are always the same, and they don’t really rotate any new items in,” she said at Yokosuka. “One thing I do like about the exchange is their sales. They’re hard to beat.”

Stripes reporters Alfredo Jimenez Jr., David Carter and Matthew Orr contributed to this story.
E-mail T.D. Flack at: flacktd@pstrips.osd.mil

North Korea suspected of recent defense data hack

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL — North Korea could be behind a computer hacking incident that gave the rogue government access to a summary of what the militaries of South Korea and the United States plan to do in the event war would resume on the peninsula.

“We strongly believe that it is North Korea’s act,” a spokesman for the South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff said Friday. The spokesman said it was too early in South Korea’s investigation, however, to be certain that Pyongyang was responsible for the cyber attack.

It is also unclear what, if anything, North Korea could do with the stolen information if the regime does have it, the

spokesman said.

United States Forces Korea spokesman David Oten declined to comment on the hacking report, saying it is the command’s policy not to discuss details of intelligence matters or any possible security investigations. Attempts to contact a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in South Korea late Friday were unsuccessful.

South Korea Defense Ministry spokesman Won Tae-jae said the suspected hacking occurred in late November when a South Korean officer failed to remove a USB device when he switched a military computer from a restricted-access intranet to the Internet, according to The Associated Press. The device contained

an 11-page summary of military operations South Korea and the U.S. plan in the event hostilities would resume with North Korea. Won said the full text of the operational plans was not compromised, The Associated Press reported.

North and South Korea are technically still at war, as the hostilities of the Korean War were only suspended by an armistice in 1953, and no peace treaty was ever signed.

In July, hackers launched high-profile cyber attacks that caused Web outages on prominent government-run sites in the U.S. and South Korea. Affected sites included those of the White House and South Korea’s presidential Blue House.

The Internet Protocol address that triggered those Web attacks was traced back to North Korea’s Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, the chief of South Korea’s main spy agency reportedly told lawmakers, according to AP.

South Korean media outlets have reported that North Korea runs an Internet warfare unit that tries to hack into U.S. and South Korean military networks to gather confidential information and disrupt service, and the regime has between 500 and 1,000 hacking specialists, according to AP.

E-mail Jon Rabirow at: rabirowj@pstrips.osd.mil
E-mail Hwang Hae-rym at: hwangh@pstrips.osd.mil

Walmart halts extra charge for APO shipping

By MARK PATTON
Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — Retail giant Walmart is no longer charging extra shipping fees to U.S. military customers living overseas.

A discrepancy between shipping rates charged to stateside customers and to military customers overseas was highlighted in a recent Stars and Stripes article. For example, the shipping costs for a \$120 order shipped from Walmart to an APO address were nearly five times the

cost of the same order sent to a stateside address.

Military postal officials said shipping costs to an APO address are no higher than shipping to a domestic U.S. address because the military bears the added expense of transporting the goods overseas.

Other retailers are charging the same as stateside shipping, or less, to ship items to APO addresses. Target, for example, was offering free shipping to APO/FPO addresses for the holidays on orders of more than \$50. And the company's regular shipping fees were lower for APOs and FPOs than for stateside addresses.

Walmart has not granted repeated requests for an interview on the issue. But an e-mail sent to Stars and Stripes on Thursday evening said the company has changed its APO shipping rates.

"Effective immediately, we have modified our APO shipping charges," Walmart spokesman Ravi Jariwala said in the e-mail. "They are now the same as shipping to homes and businesses in the continental U.S. This change is currently reflected on our site as our customers select and purchase their merchandise."

E-mail Mark Patton at: pattonm@estripes.osd.mil

Teens: 'They are on their own'

TEENS, FROM PAGE 1

Even the military was unsure in early stages, initially maintaining the teens qualified for the same protections as military personnel while Japanese authorities investigated the possible crime.

That is not the case, a spokesman for U.S. Forces Japan said Thursday.

"We all have to deal with the Japanese system if we get in trouble off base," said Marine Corps Maj. Neal Fisher.

But military members have a slight advantage in the initial stages of a Japanese investigation that does not extend to Pentagon civilian workers or any family members living in the country, according to Fisher.

In Japan, criminal suspects may be held 23 days without a charge while prosecutors question them and gather other evidence. If servicemembers are arrested off base, they, too, face pre-charge confinement.

However, the status of forces agreement with Japan provides some protection for servicemembers who are physically on a military base, according to Fisher. In that case, Japanese authorities may not arrest them unless an actual charge is brought forward or the military decides to turn the servicemember over to Japanese authorities.

All others — including the teens — can face custody behind bars before formal charges are brought by prosecutors.

And as suspects who are younger than 20, the teens face an additional confinement before appearing in court, according to a spokesman for Japan's Ministry of Justice.

In their cases, the local prosecutor has until next weekend to make recommendations to a family court judge on how to proceed.

Then that judge can take an additional eight weeks to decide whether the teens should face adult charges, be treated as juveniles, or be released to their parents on a probationary status.

In the meantime, the parents have hired Japanese defense lawyers, and the military is tracking the case from a distance, military officials said.

"They are on their own," said William Cleary, who holds a doctorate in Japanese law and consults with Japanese attorneys who have foreign clients. "They should be educated to that."

Yokota spokesman Air Force Maj. Christopher Watt agreed.

"We know there's a heavy rumor mill out there we need to address," Watt said Thursday. "It was clear from this, we need to educate."

Wing leaders are planning a campaign for early next year to remind airmen and their families about the privileges and consequences of living in Japan, especially when it comes to the local police and judicial system, Watt said. The campaign will address generic situations and not the specific case with the teens, he added.

Authorities have not identified the teens by name. Japanese police described the oldest teen as an unemployed male, 18. The other three are high school students, two boys and a girl.

The victim has been able to return to work part-time, Watt said.

An adult attempted-murder conviction could bring a life sentence, Cleary said.

Juvenile criminals, however, typically end up in the Japanese reformatory system, which provides correctional and vocational education for juveniles 12 to 19. Of the 52 reformatory schools throughout Japan, a dozen can accommodate foreigners who might need language support, according to a spokesman with Ministry of Justice.

There's a possibility, however, that the teens could be released by the family court judge to the care of their parents under a sort of probation, according to Satoshi Kawamitsu, a defense lawyer who defends U.S. servicemembers and other SOFA-status Americans charged with crimes.

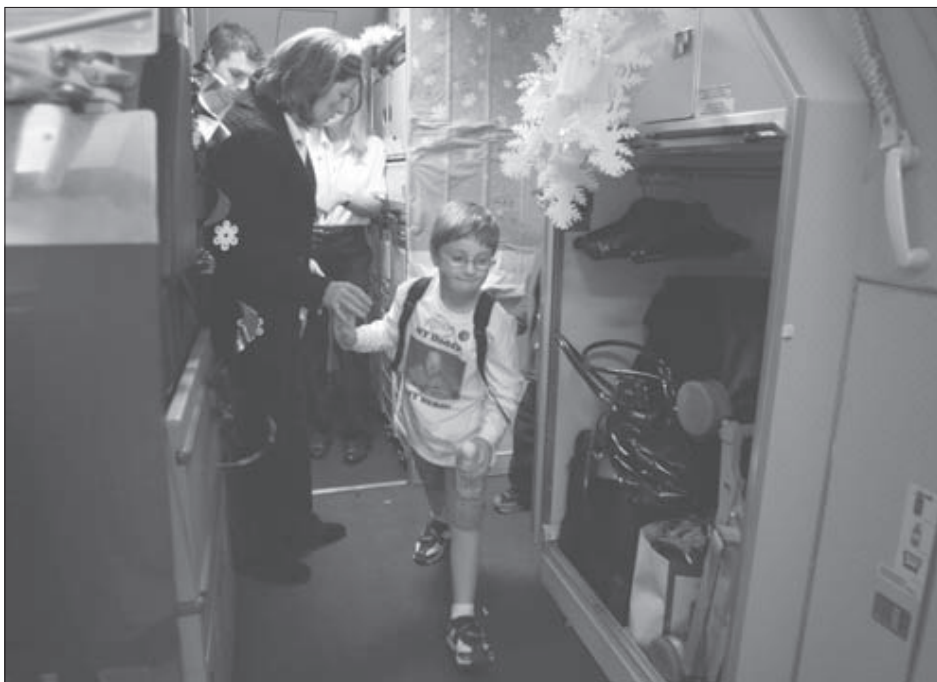
And there's also the possibility that the family court judge could decide the evidence does not show the teens have any responsibility for the accident, experts said.

It can help if the suspects show remorse during this pre-charge stage, despite the lack of formal charges, said Cleary, who also worked in international law for the military at Yokota a few years ago. Often that remorse comes as an apology and a payment to the victim to show the suspect is taking responsibility for his or her actions.

Those overtures have not happened, Fisher said.

"A lot of those things indicate guilt," he said. "The kids haven't been charged yet."

E-mail Teri Weaver at: weavert@pstripes.osd.mil
E-mail Hana Kusumoto at: kusumotoh@pstripes.osd.mil



PHOTOS BY VERNON BRYANT/The Dallas Morning News

Flight attendant Kimberly Pitcher gives a high five to Oliver Petty of Tampa, Fla., as their plane arrives in Dallas on Dec. 9. Hundreds of American Airlines and Snowball Express volunteers gave an all-expenses-paid holiday to the families of fallen soldiers.

Charity treats children of fallen soldiers

By AVI SELK
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — The passengers filed off the plane in a conspicuous pattern: mother and children, mother and children, mother and children.

One of the last women to exit handed the pilot a thank-you note. In lieu of a signature, she had written the name of the family member who wasn't on the flight: Arthur S. Mastrapa. KIA Iraq 6-16-04.

"I know what it's like," said the pilot, whose own father died when he was 9.

He, the entire flight crew and hundreds of other volunteers donated their time for Snowball Express — a charity operation that collected about 1,300 children and spouses of fallen soldiers from all over the country and brought them to Dallas on Dec. 9 for a much-needed holiday.

Nine-year-old Hunter Youngblood's father was killed by a roadside bomb in 2005 while on foot patrol in the city of Hit. Hunter most looked forward to seeing his friend Jack, who he knew from previous Snowballs and who would arrive from Penn-



Sgt. Kristopher Giuranna talks to Michael Wert, 10, during a Snowball Express event at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

sylvania later that day.

Jack's dad was a soldier, too, Hunter explained. He rode in a tank. "Then the tank fell off a bridge, and scuba divers tried to find him but they never found him. My dad died in Iraq, too."

"These are military kids," said Dan Ronan, one of Snowball Express' volunteer board members. "They're strong, tough, resilient little people and they put on a tough face. But deep down they need affection and love and

all the things that any other kid needs."

Ronan said Snowball Express was inspired by the story of a serviceman who promised to take his family to Disneyland for Christmas, but never made it home.

For four days, the families slept in courtesy hotel suites, met Dallas Cowboys players and cheerleaders, dined at the Sheraton and were serenaded by actor Gary Sinise and his Lt. Dan Band.

It seems like yesterday the world heralded the start of a new millennium while fearing the onslaught of the Y2K bug. So much has happened since in a decade that produced some of the most extraordinary events in memory.

The Associated Press is examining the Aughts, the Zeros — whatever you want to call a decade that reached its low

toward the start, on Sept. 11, 2001, and has since pirouetted through wars and social networking, a roller-coaster economy and the election of the first black U.S. president.

TODAY:

CLIMATE



AP

An iceberg is seen melting off the coast of Ammassalik, Greenland. Over the past nine years, global temperatures averaged 1.1 degrees Fahrenheit higher than the 1951-1980 average, NASA reported. Temperatures rose faster in the far north than anywhere else on Earth.

PUTTING A LID ON WARMING

By CHARLES J. HANLEY
The Associated Press

It dawned with the warmest winter on record in the United States. And when the sun sets this New Year's Eve, the decade of the 2000s will end as the warmest ever on global temperature charts.

Warmer still, scientists say, lies ahead.

Through 10 years of global boom and bust, of breakneck change around the planet, of terrorism, war and division, all people everywhere under that warming sun faced one threat together: the build-up of greenhouse gases, the untold damage to the world humanity has created for itself over millennia.

As the decade neared its close, the U.N. gathered presidents and premiers of almost 100 nations for a climate summit to take united action, to sharply cut back the burning of coal and other fossil fuels.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told them they had "a powerful opportunity to get on the right side of history" at a year-ending climate conference in Copenhagen.

Once again, however, disunity might keep the world's nations on this side of making historic decisions.

"Deep down, we know that you are not really listening," the Maldives' Mohamed Nasheed told fellow presidents at September's summit.

Nasheed's tiny homeland, a sprinkling of low-lying islands in the Indian Ocean, will be one of the earliest victims of seas

rising from heat expansion and melting glaciers. On remote islets of Papua New Guinea, on Pacific atolls, on bleak Arctic shores, other coastal peoples in the 2000s were already making plans, packing up, seeking shelter.

The warming seas were growing more acidic, too, from absorbing carbon dioxide, the biggest greenhouse gas in an overloaded atmosphere. Together, warmer waters and acidity will kill coral reefs and imperil other marine life — from plankton at the bottom of the food chain, to starfish and crabs, mussels and sea urchins.

Over the decade's first nine years, global temperatures averaged 1.1 degrees Fahrenheit higher than the 1951-1980 average, NASA reported. And temperatures rose faster in the far north than anywhere else on Earth.

The decade's final three summers melted Arctic sea ice more than ever before in modern times. Greenland's gargantuan ice cap was pouring 3 percent more meltwater into the sea each year. Every summer's thaw reached deeper into the Arctic permafrost, threatening to unlock vast amounts of methane, a global-warming gas.

Less ice meant less sunlight reflected, more heat absorbed by the Earth. More methane escaping the tundra meant more warming, more thawing, more methane released.

At the bottom of the world, late in the decade, International Polar Year re-

search found that Antarctica, too, was warming. Floating ice shelves fringing its coast weakened, some breaking away, allowing the glaciers behind them to push ice faster into the rising oceans.

On six continents the glaciers retreated through the 2000s, shrinking future water sources for countless millions of Indians, Chinese and South Americans. The great lakes of Africa were shrinking, too, from higher temperatures, evaporation and drought. Across the temperate zones, flowers bloomed earlier, lakes froze later, bark beetles bored their destructive way northward through warmer forests. In the Arctic, surprised Eskimos spotted the red breasts of southern robins.

By year-end 2008, the 2000s already included eight of the 10 warmest years on record. By 2060, that trajectory could push temperatures a dangerous 7 degrees Fahrenheit or more higher than preindustrial levels, British scientists said.

Before the turn of the last century, with slide rule, pencil and months of tedious calculation, Svante Arrhenius was the first to show that carbon dioxide would warm the planet.

Today their supercomputers tell his scientific heirs a much more urgent story: To halt and reverse that explosion of emissions, to head off a planetary climate crisis, the 10 years that dawn this Jan. 1 will be the fateful years, the final chance, the last decade.

2001

President George W. Bush publicly rejects the 1997 Kyoto Protocol.

2005

The Kyoto Protocol takes effect for 37 industrialized nations. The year's average global temperatures are the highest in recorded history, NASA reports.

2007

The summer melt of Arctic sea ice is the greatest on record, the U.S. National Snow and Ice Data Center reports. In its first assessment in six years, the U.N. scientific panel on climate projects temperatures may rise as much as 11.5 degrees Fahrenheit in the 21st century if nothing is done.

2009

Focus falls on December's U.N. climate conference in Copenhagen as the arena for a new global agreement to combat warming.



SUNDAY ALAMBA/AP

Residents travel in canoes through Makoko, a slum neighborhood built on stilts over Lagos Lagoon in Lagos, Nigeria, where the sea is encroaching on land.

IN THE WORLD

Nations strike late deal at climate summit

Agreement will force countries to outline emissions plans

The Associated Press

COPENHAGEN — President Barack Obama said the United States and four other countries, including China, reached a “meaningful and unprecedented breakthrough” Friday on a deal to curb greenhouse gas emissions after a frenzied day of diplomacy at the U.N. climate talks.

The agreement involving the U.S., China, India, South Africa and Brazil requires each country to list the actions they will take to cut global warming pollution by specific amounts, a senior Obama administration official said. The official described the deal on the condition of anonymity because details had not been announced.

The deal reiterates a goal set earlier this year on long-term emissions cuts and provides a mechanism to be help poor countries prepare for climate change.

Obama spent the final scheduled day of the climate talks meeting with world leaders, including Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, in a bid to salvage the global warming accord amid deep divisions between rich and poor nations.

Before the late breakthrough, neither Obama nor Wen offered any new commitments to cut the greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming as they addressed the conference. And Wen skipped a high-level meeting of 20 nations Friday morning, sending an envoy instead.

“We are ready to get this done today but there has to be movement on all sides to recognize that is better for us to act rather than talk,” Obama said, insisting on a transparent way to monitor each nation’s pledges to cut emissions.

Wen told delegates that China’s voluntary targets of reducing its carbon intensity by 40 percent to 45 percent will require “tremen-

dous efforts.”

“We will honor our word with real action,” Wen said.

Abandoning any hope of reaching a comprehensive deal, a group of about 25 countries sought agreement on a political statement setting out critical elements, key among them the mobilization of \$30 billion in the next three years to help poor countries cope with climate change. That would be a scaled up to \$100 billion a year in climate change-aid by 2020.

Several new drafts of the document, titled the Copenhagen Accord, emerged, each time with key clauses updated and modified. Later drafts said rich countries should cut their greenhouse emissions by at least 80 percent by 2050.

Some drafts called for a legally binding treaty within six months or no later than December 2010.

A clause was dropped that had called on developing countries to reduce emissions by 15 percent to 30 percent below “business as usual,” that is, judged against the level had no action been taken.

Obama also met with the leaders of Australia, Britain, France, Germany and Japan. Also participating in the talks were developing countries Ethiopia, Bangladesh and Colombia, among others. China and Russia also were present.

China has been criticized at the two-week conference offering stronger carbon emissions targets and for resisting international monitoring of its actions.

The U.S. got its share of blame.

Obama may eventually become known as “the man who killed Copenhagen,” said Greenpeace U.S. Executive Director Phil Radford, before the agreement was reached.



ANJA NIEDRINGHAUS/AP

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, right, listens to a member of his delegation during the plenary session at the climate summit in Copenhagen on Friday.

Admiral urges unity on climate

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Navy’s top oceanographer spoke before an international global warming summit in Copenhagen on Wednesday and called climate change a “common enemy” that should bring nations together, according to a Navy news release.

Rear Adm. David Titley, oceanographer of the Navy and director of the Navy Task Force Climate Change, said changing climate is challenging maritime security and that the Navy is making plans to address the issues. His testimony was part of a landmark meeting of leaders from more than 120 countries

who met in Denmark last week to discuss how humans are affecting temperatures.

“The U.S. Navy is committed to addressing global climate change using a science-based approach,” Titley told the United Nations Panel on National Security Implications of Climate Change, the release said.

Titley and the Navy Task Force Climate Change staff are examining the effect of melting Arctic ice and the possibility that the area could turn into one of the world’s prime shipping lanes within decades, Stars and Stripes reported in August.

Melting Arctic ice is a near-term impact of global warming

that will require the Navy to build new partnerships and to adapt, Titley contended.

“In this context, climate change may be viewed as a ‘common enemy’ that will bring nations together towards a common end,” Titley said.

Further into the future, changes in temperature and precipitation could require more Navy humanitarian and disaster-relief missions, he said.

Wild-card effects — effects not understood well by scientists — could include the impact of changing ocean acidity on food sources and the effects of glacial ice sheet melting on sea levels.

No.1 TRAVEL has been serving the foreign community in Japan for over 24 years!

NO.1 JAN. SPECIAL		NO.1 FEB. SPECIAL	
SEOUL DIRECT	¥15,000~ (\$150) 1/4-29	MANILA CONNECTING FLIGHT	¥42,400~ (\$424) 2/1-28
MANILA DIRECT	¥28,900~ (\$289) 1/12-30	SINGAPORE DIRECT	¥29,800~ (\$298) 2/1-28
SINGAPORE DIRECT	¥25,600~ (\$256) 1/11-30	HONOLULU DIRECT	¥43,000~ (\$430) 2/1-3
USA WEST COAST 1 SELECTED CITY DIRECT FLIGHT or CONNECTING FLIGHT	¥43,000~ (\$430) 1/5-29	USA WEST COAST 1 SELECTED CITY DIRECT FLIGHT or CONNECTING FLIGHT	¥43,000~ (\$430) 2/2-26
USA EAST COAST 1 SELECTED CITY DIRECT FLIGHT or CONNECTING FLIGHT	¥51,000~ (\$510) 1/5-29	USA EAST COAST 1 SELECTED CITY DIRECT FLIGHT or CONNECTING FLIGHT	¥51,000~ (\$510) 2/2-26

See our amazing prices from worldwide selections here.

These fares do not include tax, insurance surcharge or fuel surcharge. Prices may vary according to departure and return dates.

お得意な海外航空券が盛り沢山！日本語でもどうぞ！

http://www.no1-travel.com

TOKYO Dep.

No.1 TRAVEL
We go the extra mile for you

WE SPEAK ENGLISH, SPANISH, FRENCH, DANISH, TURKISH, HINDI, BENGALI, SRI LANKAN, THAI, TAGALOG, CHINESE, KOREAN, UYGER AND JAPANESE.

SHINJUKU HEAD OFFICE 03-3200-8871 FAX 03-3200-8870	IKEBUKURO BRANCH 03-3986-4291 E-mail: no1ikebukuro@his-world.co.jp	SHIBUYA BRANCH 03-3770-1381 E-mail: no1shb@alles.or.jp	YOKOHAMA BRANCH 045-231-0721 E-mail: no1yok@alles.or.jp
---	---	---	--

Auschwitz camp's infamous sign stolen

By **MONIKA SCISLOWSKA**
AND **KRZYSZTOF KOPACZ**
The Associated Press

OSWIECIM, Poland — The Nazis' infamous iron sign declaring "Arbeit Macht Frei" — German for "Work Sets You Free" — was stolen Friday from the entrance of the former Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, Polish police said.

The 16-foot, 90-pound iron sign at the Holocaust memorial site in southern Poland was unscrewed on one side and torn off on the other, police spokeswoman Katarzyna Padlo said.

The theft from the entrance to the camp — where more than 1 million people, mostly Jews, died during World War II — brought condemnation worldwide.

"The theft of such a symbolic object is an attack on the memory of the Holocaust, and an escalation from those elements that would like to return us to darker days," Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev said in a statement from Jerusalem.

"I call on all enlightened forces in the world who fight against anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia and the hatred of the other, to join together to combat these trends."

Police deployed 50 police, including 20 detectives, and a



The original sign declaring "Arbeit Macht Frei" (German for "Work Sets You Free") was stolen from the former Nazi death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau before dawn on Friday.

search dog to the Auschwitz grounds, where barracks, watchtowers and ruins of gas chambers

stand as testament to the atrocities of Nazi Germany. Police said they were reviewing footage from

a surveillance camera that overlooks the entrance gate and the road beyond, but declined to say

whether the crime was recorded.

Auschwitz museum spokesman Jaroslaw Mensfelt said it might have been too dark for the camera to have captured images. He said the thieves apparently carried the sign 300 yards to an opening in a concrete wall.

Four metal bars that had blocked the opening were cut. Tire tracks and footprints in the snow led from the wall opening to the nearby road, where police presume the sign was loaded on to a vehicle.

In Brussels, European Parliament president Jerzy Buzek, a former Polish prime minister, appealed to the thieves to return the sign.

"Give it back out of respect for the suffering of over a million victims, murdered in this Nazi camp, the biggest cemetery of humankind," Buzek said.

Police were offering a \$1,700 reward for public tips about the thieves.

In Jerusalem, the International Auschwitz Committee said the theft "deeply unsettles the survivors."

"The sign has to be found," said Noach Flug, an Auschwitz survivor and president of the committee. "The slogan and the camp itself will tell what happened even when we won't be able to tell anymore."

Mumbai suspect: Police tortured to get confession

By **RAJESH SHAH**
The Associated Press

MUMBAI, India — The accused gunman in last year's bloody siege of Mumbai retracted his detailed confession Friday, saying police tortured him into admitting his role in the attacks that left 166 people dead.

Mohammed Ajmal Kasab, 21, who is being tried in a special court — and was photographed carrying an assault rifle during the attack on Mumbai's main train station — told the judge he came to Mumbai as a tourist and was arrested 20 days before the siege began.

On the day the attacks started, Kasab said, police took him from his cell because he resembled one of the gunmen, shot him to make it look like he had been involved in the violence and re-arrested him.

Friday's statement was not the

first reversal from Kasab.

In February, he told a judge he wanted to attack India in order to free the divided region of Kashmir where Muslim militants are fighting for independence. He later recanted that statement, saying it was obtained under duress.

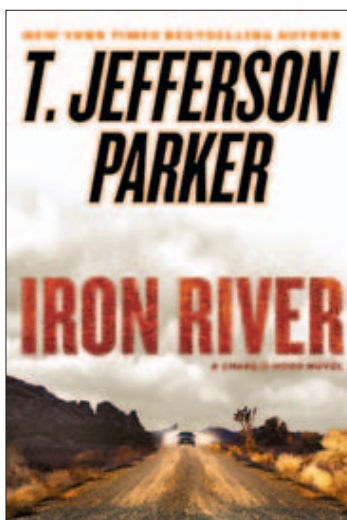
It was unclear what impact Kasab's statement would have on the case. The prosecution brushed it off.

"All the while, I expected that Kasab was about to take a U-turn in the case," said Ujjwal Nikam, the prosecutor. "He is a military-trained commando. It's not going to affect our case."

In July, Kasab, who could face the death penalty if convicted, surprised the court when he suddenly confessed.

The assault 13 months ago lasted nearly three days and paralyzed India's commercial hub.

WIN YOUR SIGNED COPY!



Stripes Book Club and Dutton, a member of Penguin Group (USA) Inc., are proud to offer you a chance to win a signed copy of New York Times Bestselling Author and Three Time Edgar Award-Winner T. Jefferson Parker's *IRON RIVER*.

T. Jefferson Parker ranks among the very top tier of contemporary crime writers and his new series has received the best reviews of his already stellar career.

This time around, Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy Charlie Hood is running the California-Mexico border with the ATF, searching for the iron river—the massive and illegal flow of handguns and automatic weapons that fuels the bloody cartel wars south of the border. Gunrunners by nature aren't exactly ethical, but the lengths they'll go to, and the innocent lives they'll risk are shocking even to Hood. Most shocking of all is the close personal connection Hood finds wrapped up in the events south of the border—a connection that shakes him to his core.

"Some of the finest writing you'll ever read." —*Chicago Sun Times*

"A pro, that's what T. Jefferson Parker is. His plots are intricate, keenly crafted, clearly mapped; his characters complicated, yet consistent; Parker is an ace." —*San Diego Union-Tribune*

"Deft characterization and hard-boiled action played out against smartly detailed Southern Californian landscapes." —*Los Angeles Times*

"If it's a just world, T. Jefferson Parker will be more famous than Raymond Chandler or Dashiell Hammett, because he does so much more with the thriller format." —*Carolyn See*

Stars and Stripes is giving away 10 signed copies of "IRON RIVER" to our lucky readers. Just go to Stripes.com to enter and win.



Penguin Group (USA)

Must be at least 18 years old and a U.S. Government ID cardholder to enter and win. No purchase necessary. All entries must be received by midnight on December 31, 2009. See official rules on Stripes.com.

COURT-MARTIAL DEFENSE
GUY WOMACK & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
ATTORNEYS

WORLD WIDE
Call 713-224-8815
WWW.GUYWOMACK.COM




Just in time for the Holiday Season

Look what we pulled out of our hat!

US Flat-rate Call

Unlimited calling to the continental US for just **¥3,000/month**



* Battery charger (AC adaptor)
for the 740SC sold separately.

For a limited time, SoftBank is offering a special optional service for new subscribers: **US Flat-rate Call**.

Imagine! Unlimited calling to anywhere in the continental United States¹ for only **¥3,000/month**².

To be eligible, just purchase a specially priced X03HT, 740SC, or X01NK handset³ between December 1 and December 31.

¹ Applies only to calls placed from Japan to the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia. Not available for Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, Puerto Rico, or other overseas American territories.

² TV Call not included. Subscribers must also sign up for the White Plan service package for ¥980/month (incl. tax) and pay a one-time activation fee of ¥2,700.

³ Offer valid only with the purchase of an X03HT, 740SC, or X01NK handset at a SoftBank on-base kiosk. Prices and dates may change without prior notice. Availability of some models and colors is limited.

* US Flat-rate Call cannot be combined with the Smart All-In-One Discount or other SoftBank campaigns.

Visit us at

<http://military.mb.softbank.jp>

Atsugi	Sasebo	Yokosuka	Iwakuni	Foster	Hansen	Courtney	Kadena	Kinser	Misawa	Yokota	Zama
--------	--------	----------	---------	--------	--------	----------	--------	--------	--------	--------	------

Weapons seizure hurts N. Korean economy

By JOHN M. GLIONNA
Los Angeles Times

SEOUL — The recent seizure of a transport plane carrying North Korean-made weapons for sale was more than just an embarrassment for Pyongyang. It represents another significant loss the financially struggling regime can ill afford, analysts say.

An already-anemic North Korean economy in recent months has continued a perilous tailspin triggered by international sanctions imposed on the combative nuclear-armed state. The U.N.-imposed restrictions have led to several risky measures experts suggest may be warning signs of worsening economic woes.

The regime has also faced widespread anger at home over its move early this month to revalue the national currency, making a 10,000-won note worth 10 won. The discontent led officials to ease the strategy, which was aimed at curbing runaway inflation.

Analysts say North Korea's need to bolster its weakened economy may be the leverage needed to bring its leader, Kim Jong Il, back to talks designed to convince the regime to give up its nuclear arsenal.

"The U.N. embargo has had an effect," said Choi Soo-young, a senior research fellow at Korea Institute for National Uni-



Thai police officers and soldiers remove crates from a cargo plane carrying North Korean-made weapons in Bangkok earlier this month. The weapons seizure represents another significant loss for the financially struggling Pyongyang regime.

fication in Seoul. "The plane detained in Thailand will have a big impact. It shows North Korea's illegal air trade has been restricted. It is very difficult for the regime

to make money."

Pyongyang's struggles will depend on just how much China — North Korea's biggest benefactor and longtime ally — will

follow through in its promise of continued economic help.

In a visit to Seoul on Thursday, Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping called on North Korea to resume the six-party talks, which also include the United States, Russia, China, Japan and South Korea.

Analysts say they do not know how much longer the North Koreans can rely on Chinese aid if they ignore such pleas. Said Choi: "China's help has allowed North Korea to stay un-swayed."

North Korea is believed to earn as much as \$1 billion annually by selling missiles, missile parts and other weaponry to nations such as Iran, Syria and Myanmar.

"To reduce North Korea's economic suffering, support and resources from the outside world are essential," said Cho Myung-chul, a North Korean economist at the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy in Seoul.

He said that North Korea's economy is at its worst since 2006, adding: "Arms sales are the biggest part of North Korean exports and have a big influence" on the economy. For now, Cho said, Pyongyang's gamble is to give the impression of continued economic health as officials deal with the U.S. over their nuclear ambitions.

Obama: U.S., Russia 'quite close' to nuclear arms control agreement

The Associated Press

COPENHAGEN — President Barack Obama said Friday that the U.S. and Russia were "quite close" to agreeing on a successor to an expired nuclear arms control treaty.

Obama had wanted a new deal in place before the end of the year, but that appeared unlikely.

Emerging from private talks with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on the sidelines of the U.N. climate conference, Obama expressed confidence that a successor pact will be agreed to in a "timely fashion." Medvedev said technical details still needed to be worked out.

Both leaders made only brief

statements to reporters and took no questions. Neither one said anything about a possible timetable for signing a deal.

"We've been making excellent progress," Obama said. "We are quite close to an agreement. And I'm confident that it will be completed in a timely fashion."

Dutch deny Venezuela's claim of U.S. military attack plan

By MIKE CORDER
The Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The Dutch government denied Friday that it is allowing the United States to use Caribbean islands to prepare a possible military attack against Venezuela as that country's president contends.

A spokesman said Foreign Minister Maxime Verhagen had asked Venezuela's ambassador to clarify the claims made by President Hugo Chavez in a speech Thursday at the climate summit in Copenhagen.

Foreign ministry spokesman Bart Rijs said the United States does use civilian air fields on the self-governing islands of Curacao and Aruba, but the U.S. forces are solely combating narcotic trafficking and use unarmed aircraft.

The Venezuelan leader accused the U.S. military of sending intelligence agents, war ships and spy planes to Aruba, Curacao and an-

other self-governing Dutch island, Bonaire, in preparation for an attack to topple him from power.

"They are three islands in Venezuela's territorial waters, but they are still under an imperial regime, the Netherlands," Chavez said during his Copenhagen speech. "Europe should know that the North American empire is filling these islands with weapons, assassins, American intelligence units, and spy planes and warships."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Ian Kelly denied that U.S. military personnel in the Caribbean are planning to attack Venezuela.

"These allegations are baseless. These are routine exercises. We seek cooperation with the region," Kelly said.

Chavez did not offer evidence supporting his accusations, but said the European Union should take a stance.

The remarks were Chavez's strongest yet directed at the Neth-



Hugo Chavez

erlands. Three years ago he also bickered with the Dutch government, calling its defense minister a "pawn of Washington" who was part of an orchestrated campaign to vilify him as a "tyrant making plans for invasions of neighboring countries."

Venezuela and Colombia have been feuding for months over an agreement between Bogota and Washington that allows the U.S. military to increase its presence at Colombian bases through a 10-year lease agreement.

Doctors begin removal of needles from boy

BRASILIA, Brazil — Doctors began emergency surgery Friday to remove four sewing needles lodged in a Brazilian toddler's lungs and near his heart that allegedly were inserted by his stepfather during a series of bizarre rituals.

Surgeons in the northeastern city of Salvador were removing only four of the dozens of needles inside the boy — the ones posing the biggest threats to the 2-year-old's life, hospital spokeswoman Susy Moreno said.

The operation was expected to last at least six hours, she said. If the initial operation is a success, surgeons may go after more needles in subsequent operations.

Police said the boy's stepfather confessed to pushing 42 supposedly "blessed" sewing needles deep into the child because his lover told him to while in trances. The rituals were performed over a period of a month to try to keep the couple together, the stepfather told police.

3 al-Qaida suspects detained in drug case

WASHINGTON — Three accused al-Qaida associates have been arrested in Africa and brought to New York on charges they conspired to support terrorism by smuggling drugs bound for Europe, authorities said Friday.

The arrests mark the first time U.S. authorities have captured and charged al-Qaida suspects in a drug trafficking plot in Africa, in a case officials say demonstrates the spread of the terror network into global criminal activity.

The three suspects — believed to be in their 30s and originally from Mali — were arrested in Ghana earlier this week.

Atom smasher to take a break until February

GENEVA — Operators of the world's largest atom smasher say they have shut down the machine until February to prepare for a groundbreaking research program. The European Organization for Nuclear Research said the break is necessary to increase the levels of the energy used to smash protons into each other.

Google convicted in copyright case

PARIS — A Paris court has convicted Google Inc. in a copyright infringement case over online publication of French books.

A judge ruled Friday that the U.S. Internet search giant must pay \$430,000 in damages and interest to French publisher La Martiniere. Google was also ordered to pay 10,000 per day until it removes extracts of the French books from its online database.

Google's plans to scan millions of books to make them available online has drawn criticism in both the United States and Europe.

From The Associated Press

www.marriagebyproxy.com

Get Legally Married While Deployed

- USA Marriage Certificate
- Recognized By Military
- No Travel Required
- Completed In 3 Weeks
- Personalized Service
- Do The Right Thing

Contact Sam or Barbara

Call: 001-610-644-2630

Toll Free: 877-482-2406

shmuck@yahoo.com

IN THE STATES

D.C. mayor signs gay marriage bill

WASHINGTON — The mayor of Washington has signed a bill legalizing gay marriage in the nation's capital, but it won't go into effect just yet.

Mayor Adrian M. Fenty signed the bill Friday in a public ceremony.

The city council passed the measure Tuesday to legalize same-sex marriage in the city. Congress has final say over D.C.'s laws, however, so the mayor's signature doesn't mean the bill immediately becomes law.

The bill must pass a 30-day period of congressional review.

Police chief accused of cover-up ordered held

SHENANDOAH, Pa. — A police chief ordered held without bail on charges he tried to cover up the fatal beating of a Mexican immigrant by white teenagers was named in a 2006 lawsuit that claimed police beat to death a Hispanic teenager, then made it look like a suicide.

Police Chief Matthew Nestor was never charged, but the allegations contained in the suit, in Tuesday's indictment and in other civil claims depict a police department with pervasive hostility to minorities and a penchant for using excessive force.

The suit names Nestor and Capt. Jamie Gennarini as defendants, as well as the borough of Shenandoah. The officers have denied wrongdoing.

11 baby deaths linked to Simplicity cribs

WASHINGTON — Despite several recalls and warnings, the number of reported baby deaths linked to defective Simplicity cribs has risen to 11.

The most recent death occurred in September, when a 7-month-old child from Princeton, Ky., became entrapped in the crib when a part of it broke, the Consumer Product Safety Commission said Thursday.

The agency also said it's aware of 25 other incidents involving drop-side cribs detaching from Simplicity cribs.

More than 2 million Simplicity drop-side cribs have been recalled so far because of problems with their plastic hardware.

From The Associated Press

Wrap-up bill clears Senate hurdle

By ANDREW TAYLOR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A pre-holiday package that wraps up Pentagon spending, extended unemployment benefits and other must-pass measures awaits one final vote in the Senate before it reaches President Barack Obama's desk for his signature.

The Senate cleared a crucial hurdle early Friday, voting to end debate on a bill that combined all that remained of this year's congressional agenda — except for health care.

Anchored by a \$626 billion Pentagon funding bill, the measure also carries short-term extensions of unemployment benefits, highway and transit funding, key pieces of the anti-terror Patriot Act and a measure to save doctors from shouldering a 21 percent cut in Medicare payments.

The timing of the 63-33 post-midnight tally — which blocked GOP stalling tactics and forced a final vote to clear the bill for President Barack Obama no later than Saturday — was governed more by the brawl over health care than significant opposition to the defense measure or its additional baggage.

For a time, Republicans are using every avenue available to them to try to delay or kill the health care legislation, including stretching out debate on the defense measure. (See story on Page 15.)

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by an overwhelming 395-34 vote.

A key Republican, Thad Cochran of Mississippi, was expected to vote to advance the measure but succumbed to pressure from GOP leaders to try to sustain the filibuster. That forced Democrats to get all 60 of their members, including anti-war Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., to defeat the filibuster and try to keep the Senate on track to pass the health care bill by Christmas.

"I am not going to be part of a partisan and cynical effort to delay passage of the defense bill in order to block the Senate from considering health care reform," Feingold said.

After Feingold fell in line and the vote was

Highlights of legislation

Defense spending

- \$626 billion for the Pentagon for the budget year that began Oct. 1, including \$128 billion for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- 3.4 percent pay increase for service members.
- \$104 billion for weapons procurement, including 30 next-generation Joint Strike Fighters, 10 C-17 Cargo jets not requested by President Barack Obama and \$15 billion for seven new Navy ships. Shuts down the costly F-22 fighter program and the much-criticized new presidential helicopter.
- Rejects Obama's request for \$100 million to close the Guantanamo Bay prison.
- Permits Guantanamo detainees to be transferred to the U.S. to stand trial.

Extensions of current law until Feb. 28

- Continued unemployment benefits for the long-term jobless.
- 65 percent health insurance subsidy for the unemployed.
- Highway and transit funding.
- Prevents a 21 percent cut in Medicare payments to physicians.
- Three provisions of the anti-terror Patriot Act.
- Satellite television laws governing the transmission of local broadcast signals.
- Waives fees on Small Business Administration loans and increases to 90 percent the portion of such loans guaranteed by the SBA.

From The Associated Press



KEVIN FRAYER/AP

A U.S. Marine stands silhouetted against the sky during an operation in the Garmir district of Helmand province, Afghanistan, on Friday as Senate lawmakers in Washington voted to allow legislation containing a \$626 billion defense spending bill to be brought to the full Senate for a vote.

assured, three Republicans joined the Democrats to end debate — Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas and Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins, both of Maine.

On Thursday, Defense Secretary Robert Gates wrote Senate Republican Leader Mitch

McConnell to urge a vote, saying that delay would cause a serious disruption in Pentagon activities. "It is inconceivable to me that such a situation would be permitted to occur with U.S. forces actively deployed in combat," Gates wrote.

Agency probes for gender bias in college admissions

By KATHY MATHESON
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A federal civil rights agency investigating possible gender discrimination in college admissions will subpoena data from more than a dozen mid-Atlantic universities, officials said Thursday.

The probe by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is focusing on whether some colleges favor men

by admitting them at higher rates than women, or by offering them more generous aid packages.

Commission members voted Wednesday to authorize subpoenas for 19 universities within a 100-mile radius of where the commission meets in Washington — the geographical extent of their subpoena authority.

The schools represent a mixture of sizes and include public, private, religious, secular, his-

torically black and moderately selective to highly selective institutions.

There are six in Maryland, five in Pennsylvania, three in Washington, two each in Virginia and Delaware, and one in West Virginia.

Women outnumber men nearly 60 percent to 40 percent in higher education nationally.

The probe grew out of anecdotal stories that admissions of-

ficials are discriminating against women to promote a more even gender mix, said commission spokeswoman Lenore Ostrowsky.

Spokespeople for several schools on the list declined comment Thursday since they had not received the subpoenas.

Statistics from a few colleges on the list reveal varying percentages of men and women on campus.

ESCAPE TO THE HEART OF TOKYO!

December							January							February						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28						
							31													

■ Available ■ Not Available

WINTER SPECIAL PACKAGE

25% Discount off all rooms from these selected dates

January: 20(Wed), 21(Thu), 24(Sun), 25(Mon), 26(Tue), 27(Wed), 28(Thu), 31(Sun)
February: 1(Mon), 2(Tue), 3(Wed), 4(Thu), 7(Sun), 8(Mon), 9(Tue), 10(Wed) or 11(Thu)

• \$10.00 Discount off all breakfast room service orders

• Heated pool, jacuzzi, saunas and the warmest of great service

Please tell the code Number NS01 to our reservation clerk to get this discount.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
THE EYES OF TEXA
ARE UPON YOU

December 31, Thursday
Ballroom Doors Open 20:00

PARTY PACKAGE \$88

Dinner & Buffet

Party Favors

Personal New Year's Photo

Champagne Toast at Midnight

ENTERTAINMENT

River City Ramblers & JUST AS NICE

FOR RESERVATIONS: room_rsv@thenewsanno.com
or (DSN)229-7121 (CML)3440-7871 ext.7121

We will respond with a confirmation number or a notice that there is no reservation available to your e-mail address. Latest update www.thenewsanno.com
For current availability, call Reservation Desk

A limited number of rooms and dates available on above calendars are subject to change without notice.

EVENTS FOR RESERVATIONS:

events@thenewsanno.com or 229-7151, 03-3440-7871 ext.7151



THE NEW SANNO

Guatemala abuse victim granted asylum

U.S. is crafting regulations to allow entry for those fleeing domestic violence



ERIC RISBERG/AP

After suffering 10 years of extreme sexual, physical and mental abuse at the hands of her husband, Rody Alvarado fled her native Guatemala in 1995 and applied for asylum in the U.S. Last week, after a 14-year battle, an immigration judge granted Alvarado's asylum application.

By PAUL ELIAS

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — After suffering 10 years of horrific abuse at the hands of her husband, Rody Alvarado fled her native Guatemala in 1995 and applied for asylum in the United States.

Last week, in a one-page decision, an immigration judge finally granted her request. It culminated a personal odyssey for Alvarado and a thorny legal case that inflamed passions on both sides of the immigration debate.

The Obama administration said it is crafting regulations to allow entry by other victims of domestic violence who feel they have no choice but to flee their homelands to protect themselves.

If adopted, the regulations would mark the first time the federal government formally recognizes domestic abuse victims as qualifying for political asylum.

"The issue is highly complex, and we are moving ahead to develop regulations that will address these cases," said U.S. Department of Homeland Security spokesman Matt Chandler.

No details were disclosed regarding the types of cases that would warrant asylum.

In her first interview since the court decision, Alvarado said she is proud of paving the way for women in similar situations.

"I never lost hope," said Alvarado, a deeply religious woman who left behind two young children when she fled Guatemala. "God never abandoned me."

Domestic violence claims are controversial in the fight for asylum. Currently, nearly all asylum applications allege persecution by a government rather than an individual. In addition, successful asylum applicants have to show they were persecuted because of religion, political beliefs, race, nationality or membership in a particular social group.

Advocacy groups and politicians calling for tighter borders complain that expanding asylum protection to domestic violence victims would distort the intent of refugee policy and open the borders to increased immigration.

"How are asylum authorities going to substantiate these claims when we know that domestic violence in this country can be a complicated thing?" said Ira Mehlman, a spokesman for the advocacy group Federation for American Immigration Reform. "This is getting us into personal relationships, and that's not where asylum law ought to go."

Mehlman said his organization opposes expanding the asylum law, which was created in 1980 largely as a means for Communist bloc citizens to defect while visiting the United States in a diplomatic role. Backers of the law at the time estimated that claims would average around 5,000 a year and drop off significantly after the Cold War ended.

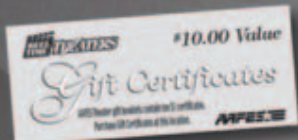
In fiscal 2008, the government received 47,459 asylum claims and granted 10,743 — a decrease over the previous year's 54,957 applications and 12,807 approvals.

Coming to your

FIRST RUN THEATER!

Give the gift that everyone loves!

People love to go to the movies, even more so when they receive an AAFES ReelTime Gift Certificate.



This \$10 Gift Booklet has ten \$1 Gift Certificates that are for AAFES Theater admission or concession stand purchases.

Visit aafes.com and select Movie Schedules.

New Yorkers Paul and Meryl Morgan seem to have it all except for the fact that their marriage is crumbling around them. But their romantic woes are small compared to the world of trouble they find themselves in after they witness a murder. To protect them from an assassin, federal agents whisk Paul and Meryl away to small-town Wyoming, where their marriage will either finally crash and burn, or their passion will re-ignite.

Cast:

Sarah Jessica Parker, Hugh Grant

Studio: Sony

Genre: Comedy, Romance



Please check your local theater or aafes.com for show dates.

REELTIME THEATERS



GOP senators threaten health bill read-a-thon

Liberals are furious over the compromises Reid made. Gone is a government insurance plan modeled on Medicare. So is the fallback, the option of allowing aging baby boomers to buy into Medicare.

Scientists have recorded the deepest erupting undersea volcano ever seen, 4,000 feet beneath the Pacific Ocean in May near Samoa. The lava froze almost instantly as it hit the cold sea water, causing black rock to sink to the sea floor. Scientists said the eruption allowed them to see for the first time the creation of a material called boninite, which had previously been found only in samples at least a million years old. The images were released Thursday.

TV Listing

Central Europe	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12:00 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	
12:30 AM	Army Newswatch	This Week in the Pentagon	FNG	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	DownRange	Grill Sergeants, The
01:00 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
01:30 AM	DownRange	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	This Week in the Pentagon
02:00 AM	-	Recon	Recon Revisited	FNG	Recon Revisited	Recon Revisited	USARJ This Week
02:30 AM	-	State Department Daily Briefing	State Department Daily Briefing	State Department Daily Briefing	State Department Daily Briefing	Grill Sergeants, The	FNG
03:00 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Air Force Football with Troy Calhoun	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
03:30 AM	FNG	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	Battleground
03:45 AM	-	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	-
04:00 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	Grill Sergeants, The	FNG	FNG	Recon Revisited
04:30 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
05:00 AM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
05:30 AM	Exchange On Air	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Today's Air Force
06:00 AM	All Hands TV	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	FNG
06:30 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	Army Newswatch
07:00 AM	Recon Revisited	FNG	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report
07:15 AM	-	-	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report
07:30 AM	American Veteran, The	Recon	EXchange On Air	Recon	Balad and Beyond	Recon Revisited	Grill Sergeants, The
08:00 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
08:30 AM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
09:00 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	Tour of Duty	Today's Air Force	American Veteran, The	Grill Sergeants, The	Army Newswatch	Fit Hood On Track
09:30 AM	Army Newswatch	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	Recon Revisited	FNG	Exchange On Air	This Week in the Pentagon
10:00 AM	Grill Sergeants, The	VA News	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Recon
10:15 AM	-	Pacific Report	-	-	-	-	-
10:30 AM	USARJ This Week	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	Air Force Football with Troy Calhoun	Recon Revisited
11:00 AM	Recon	Exchange On Air	This Week in the Pentagon	Fit Hood On Track	This Week in the Pentagon	Today's Air Force	Army Newswatch
11:30 AM	FNG	Army Newswatch	FNG	Today's Air Force	American Veteran, The	All Hands TV	This Week in the Pentagon
12:00 PM	Today's Air Force	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Grill Sergeants, The
12:30 PM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
01:00 PM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
01:30 PM	Recon Revisited	Recon	Recon Revisited	Air Force Football with Troy Calhoun	Recon Revisited	Recon Revisited	Balad and Beyond
02:00 PM	This Week in the Pentagon	This Week in the Pentagon	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	All Hands TV
02:30 PM	Grill Sergeants, The	Grill Sergeants, The	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report
02:45 PM	-	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report
03:00 PM	Around the Services	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Special Event Encore	Army Newswatch
03:30 PM	Around the Services	Recon Revisited	USARJ This Week	This Week in the Pentagon	Grill Sergeants, The	All Hands TV	Today's Air Force
04:00 PM	Around the Services	Today's Air Force	Grill Sergeants, The	Tour of Duty	Army Newswatch	Today's Air Force	Recon
04:30 PM	Around the Services	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	This Week in the Pentagon
05:00 PM	Around the Services	Pacific Report	This Week in the Pentagon	Exchange On Air	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	FNG
05:15 PM	-	AFN Europe Report	-	-	-	-	-
05:30 PM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
06:00 PM	Benning Report, The	Grill Sergeants, The	Recon	Today's Air Force	American Veteran, The	Grill Sergeants, The	Around the Services
06:30 PM	Grill Sergeants, The	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services
07:00 PM	-	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	Around the Services
07:15 PM	Pacific Report	-	-	-	-	-	-
07:30 PM	This Week in the Pentagon	All Hands TV	Today's Air Force	This Week in the Pentagon	All Hands TV	AFN Europe Report	Around the Services
07:45 PM	-	-	-	-	-	Pacific Report	-
08:00 PM	Balad and Beyond	Recon	Recon Revisited	Grill Sergeants, The	Recon Revisited	Exchange On Air	Around the Services
08:30 PM	FNG	State Department Daily Briefing	State Department Daily Briefing	State Department Daily Briefing	State Department Daily Briefing	State Department Daily Briefing	1st Air Force Now
09:00 PM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
09:30 PM	Today's Air Force	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	FNG
10:00 PM	Recon	Today's Air Force	Army Newswatch	All Hands TV	Fit Hood On Track	This Week in the Pentagon	This Week in the Pentagon
10:30 PM	American Veteran, The	American Veteran, The	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	This Week in the Pentagon	Pacific Report	Benning Report, The
10:45 PM	-	-	-	-	-	AFN Europe Report	-
11:00 PM	USARJ This Week	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange
11:30 PM	Grill Sergeants, The	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	-

FACES

Outlaw in Iraq

Musician Jessie James reconnects with military

Up-and-coming country/pop artist Jessie James just completed her first tour of U.S. bases, but it was not exactly a new experience for her.

"I was born on a military base, and I was raised around the military," the 21-year-old self-described military brat said. "It was just part of my life."

James wrapped up her first Tour for the Troops with a concert for airmen and families at RAF Lakenheath, England, this month, performing alongside musician Kid Rock and comedian Carlos Mencia. The tour also included stops in Iraq, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Turkey and Germany, playing with the Band of the Air Force Reserve.

The daughter of an Air Force fighter pilot, she was born in Italy and lived in 14 different places as a child. She says her experience with different environments and cultures made her a more sociable person and provided her with a good supply of experiences to write about.

James burst onto the scene last August with her self-titled debut album. She performed her most popular song, "Wanted," and others during

the two-week-long tour, which James said has "definitely been an eye-opener." She said performing for the troops is something she had dreamed of doing, and would definitely return if asked.

"It's a good feeling because you know that [the troops] appreciate it," James told Stars and Stripes before her final concert. "Because of their living situation over here and what they are doing, you can tell that they need it and appreciate it, and that every minute that we're here counts."

Even at an early age, James was destined for the stage. When she was 9 she stole the spotlight at a talent show in Baker, La. James recalled contestants of all ages: senior citizens, adults and teens.

"Some of these people had been entering talent shows their whole life, and I had never done it and I won," James said. "After that I was like, 'I guess I'm really good.' I loved being on stage, and I loved performing. ... After that, I got a guitar and I just took off."

James is currently working on a second album.

— David Hodge/Stars and Stripes



Courtesy of The Island Def Jam Music Group

You can tell that [the troops] need it and appreciate it, and that every minute that we're here counts."

— musician Jessie James

SAG likes Clooney, 'Precious'

"Up in the Air," "Precious" and "Inglourious Basterds"

led the Screen Actors Guild Awards with three nominations each Thursday, among them honors for George Clooney, Diane Kruger and Mo'Nique.

The World War II rewrite "Inglourious Basterds" and the Harlem story "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' By Sapphire" are competing for the guild's overall cast prize, along with the 1960s British drama "An Education," the Iraq War tale "The Hurt Locker" and the musical "Nine."

The corporate-downsizing tale "Up in the Air" was shut out of that category but scored a lead-actor nomination for Clooney as a frequent-flyer whiz and two supporting-actress slots, for Vera Farmiga and Anna Kendrick.

Following is a list of nominees in the major categories:

■ **Movie actor:** Jeff Bridges, "Crazy Heart"; George Clooney, "Up in the Air"; Colin Firth, "A Single Man"; Morgan Freeman, "Invictus"; Jeremy Renner, "The Hurt Locker."

■ **Movie actress:** Sandra Bullock, "The Blind Side"; Helen Mirren, "The Last Station"; Carey Mulligan, "An Education"; Gabourey Sidibe, "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' By Sapphire"; Meryl Streep, "Julie & Julia."

■ **Movie cast:** "An Education," "The Hurt Locker," "Inglourious Basterds," "Nine," "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' By Sapphire."

■ **Actor in a TV drama series:** Simon Baker, "The Mentalist"; Bryan Cranston, "Breaking Bad"; Michael C. Hall, "Dexter"; Jon Hamm, "Mad Men"; Hugh Laurie, "House."

■ **Actress in a TV drama series (tie vote resulted in six nominees):** Patricia Arquette, "Medium"; Glenn Close, "Damages"; Mariska Hargitay, "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit"; Holly Hunter, "Saving Grace"; Julianna Margulies, "The Good Wife"; Kyra Sedgwick, "The Closer."

■ **Actor in a TV comedy series:** Alec Baldwin, "30 Rock"; Steve Carell, "The Office"; Larry David, "Curb Your Enthusiasm"; Tony Shalhoub, "Monk"; Charlie Sheen, "Two and a Half Men."

■ **Actress in a TV comedy series:** Christina Applegate, "Samantha Who?"; Toni Collette, "United States of Tara"; Edie Falco, "Nurse Jackie"; Tina Fey, "30 Rock"; Julia Louis-Dreyfus, "The New Adventures of Old Christine."

■ **TV drama series cast:** "The Closer," "Dexter," "The Good Wife," "Mad Men," "True Blood."

■ **TV comedy series cast:** "30 Rock," "Curb Your Enthusiasm," "Glee," "Modern Family," "The Office."

— The Associated Press

'Idol' creator launches project for actors

The creator of "American Idol" is going beyond TV with a project that will tell the story of five young people trying to make it in Hollywood with online audience feedback.

Starting in early 2010, Simon Fuller's "If I Can Dream" will follow three aspiring actors, a model and a musician whose experiences will be streamed live. Viewers will have a chance to comment on what they see, and influence it, through blogs, MySpace, Twitter and Facebook.

The announcement Wednesday said the project is designed for the social networking set and will be "unfiltered and unvarnished."

"If I Can Dream" will launch across multiple platforms, including mobile handsets and radio. An edited episode will be available weekly on Hulu.com and distributed internationally.

Gosselin divorce final

Jon and Kate Gosselin are officially divorced after 10 years of marriage, eight children and a

year of tabloid headlines. A lawyer for Kate Gosselin says she gets the family home in eastern Pennsylvania in the no-fault divorce agreement entered Friday and first reported by TMZ.com.

Lawyer Mark Momjian says Kate Gosselin will continue as the primary caretaker of the reality TV couple's twins and sextuplets.

Hot dish

The mother of R&B star Ashanti says she was terrorized by a crazed fan who was obsessed with her daughter. Tina Douglas told a Manhattan jury on Thursday that Devar Hurd sent her profane and threatening voice mails and text messages. Hurd, from Indiana, was charged earlier this year with stalking and harassment.

A private middle school in inner-city Atlanta has received \$1.5 million from Oprah Winfrey. The Ron Clark Academy announced the donation Thursday.

— The Associated Press

'Please keep your clothes on, Mom!'

Kate Hudson totally gets her son's embarrassment over her skimpy outfits. The actress was filming the musical "Nine" in a silver mini dress when her young son looked at her and said, "Mom, everybody's staring at you." Hudson understands his horror because she felt the same way as a kid when her mother, Goldie Hawn, would sport revealing clothes during shoots.

— Wireless Flash



Awww — mother-daughter acting duo Goldie Hawn, right, and Kate Hudson horrified their kids in the exact same way!



THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Now that Santa's not in it, the world makes sense.

Rock relieved by Santa explanation

When funnyman Chris Rock realized there was no Santa Claus, he was "relieved."

That's because the tale of jolly ol' St. Nick never made much sense to him as a kid.

Since he's always liked to "make sense of things," Rock was confused about the whole idea of a fat guy in a red suit sliding down the chimney.

He discovered Santa wasn't real one day after catching his dad unloading Christmas presents from the car, and took it surprisingly well.

Santa or no Santa, Rock enjoys Christmas.

One of his favorite memories is the time he and his daughters spent Christmas on safari in Africa, and the girls worried that Santa wouldn't be able to find them.

On Christmas morning, they were overjoyed to find presents magically under the tree.

— Wireless Flash

Walter Scott's Personality PARADE



Actress Bryce Dallas Howard has yet to work with her father, director Ron Howard.

Q Has Ron Howard ever directed his daughter, Bryce Dallas Howard? — Ed Ward, Syracuse, N.Y.

A "I've never made a movie with my father, but I'm desperate for him to direct me," the 28-year-old actress told us. "I'm just waiting for him to hint that he has a part for me." Meantime, she stars in the long-delayed "The Loss of a Teardrop Diamond," coming out soon, and next year in the third installment of the "Twilight" saga, "Eclipse."

If your comedy-writing staff includes women, raise your hand. ... Good for you, Chelsea Handler!

NBC



Q Is the star of ABC's "SuperNanny" married with children? — Barb H., Fort Wayne, Ind.

A "I am not married, and I don't have any personal children of my own," Jo Frost told us with a laugh. "I take care of America's children right now." And how did the 38-year-old Londoner get so super? "I think everything I did was innate," she said. "I had this very strong intuition when working with children. The families I used to work for said, 'You're a white witch. You just know.'"

Q Some late-night hosts have joked that O.J. Simpson is counseling his fellow prisoners on anger management. Too good to be true? — Jim Davis, Mesa, Ariz.

A A wee bit. "He's not doing counseling specifically," Simpson's promoter and movie-producing partner, Norman Pardo, told us. "What he's doing is, he meets people who maybe don't like blacks, or maybe whites, and tries to get them to like each other."

He just wants to be peaceful, and he wants everybody to stop fighting." He might also want some time off for good behavior.



Simpson

Q You recently listed stars who've served in the armed forces but left out Karl Malden, Lee Marvin, Elvis Presley and — most grievously — Audie Murphy. How could you? — R.L. Paylor, Alexandria, Va.

A This item triggered an avalanche of responses, many of them especially aggrieved about our omission of World War II hero Murphy. With our apologies for having offended anyone, we want to emphasize that we were trying to honor living veterans. We were also taken to task for the way we referred to the bestowal of military decorations, many writers pointing out that medals are awarded, not won.

Q After winning his recent fight, Manny Pacquiao got his welterweight belt and another belt studded with diamonds. Why? — Rick Digno, Jamaica, N.Y.

A Pacquiao, who has won an unprecedented seven weight-class titles, fought Miguel Cotto at a catch weight — boxing terminology for a subdivision within a weight class — of 145 pounds. The diamond belt was a special award for the catch-weight title. Some skeptics saw the bout as a way for the World Boxing Council, the promoters and HBO to make extra money. We're thinking they might have a point.

Q How many women are on Letterman's, Leno's and Conan O'Brien's comedy writing staffs? — Betty Albert, Bozeman, Mont.

A Zero. And Jimmy Kimmel and Craig Ferguson each employ just one (in Ferguson's case, it's his

sister). "My best guess is that it has some relationship to Newton's Law — an object in motion stays in motion," veteran (female) comedy writer Merrill Markoe said. "It's a pernicious pattern that has set in over the years and needs to be interrupted somehow." A notable exception is the E! Network's Chelsea Handler, whose 10-person writing staff is half men and half women.

Q Why didn't Eartha Kitt ever get the recognition she deserved? And why wasn't she included in Oprah's Legends celebration? — Sandra Brown, Tucson, Ariz.

A We can't speak for Ms. Winfrey, who honored 25 extremely worthy African-American women at her 2005 Legends Ball. But Kitt was always a rebellious and problematic figure — her anti-war statements to Lady Bird Johnson at a 1968 White House luncheon caused an uproar that hurt her career for a decade. Kitt continued being politically outspoken, and wowing audiences with her ferocious presence, until her death in 2008. Listen to her "Santa Baby" and remember.



Eartha Kitt, shown relaxing during an interview in London in 1958, was outspoken politically, a trait that didn't endear her to some.

Stripes file photo

Reprinted by permission of Parade magazine. © 2009 Parade Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Send your questions to Walter Scott at Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

ABC
"SuperNanny"
Jo Frost
is raising
America's
children,
not having
her own.



Sunday Horoscope

Mars, the warrior planet, goes retrograde in Leo, the sign of creativity. Some of the chances you've taken for the sake of self-expression have paid off. Others haven't, and that's nothing to take personally. Apply criticism, hone your skills and try again. The rewards go to those hardy enough to interpret rejection as a temporary setback.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(Dec. 20). You face the new year with a winning determination to build the best year yet. You will apply what you've learned in years past to bring about something that only you can make happen. January seals an important deal. A vocational change in September brings your duties more in line with your training. Aquarius and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 29, 1, 43, 30 and 15.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

You know an extremely gifted person who inexplicably hides that gift from the world. Your ability to be open with your talent will give others permission to do the same.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

Your progress has not been the work of easy luck or overnight promotions; it's been one daily victory after another. Your track record of success will help you net more of the same.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

You have many things on your plate and not much time to get them done. You wonder whether you're going to make it. As long as you stay focused, you will. Pace yourself.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You are radiantly attractive. You think you're imagining those heads turning in your direction. You're not. Everyone is taking a second look and seeing you as though for the first time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

French writer Alexandre Dumas said that all human wisdom is summed up in two words: wait and hope. You have waited a long time for what is about to occur, and the experience will meet

your highest hopes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

Something happens to confirm what you have long suspected: You are right where you should be, doing what you should be doing. You will be able to maintain an alert and invigorated pace all day long.

Holiday Mathis



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Your self-confidence is inspiring to some, intimidating to others. You realize that you have no control over how others want to perceive you, but you'll also do your best to disarm those who seem to be on the defensive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

Someone will come to you needing to be calmed, and you will calm him or her. You are great at offering reassurance. When you say things are going to be OK, people believe you. What's more, you're usually right.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

Family activities enliven your scene. Sometimes you wonder what you have in common with these people who share your blood, and then one of them does something exactly the way you do it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

You feel like the passenger who, when asked by the cabbie where to go, says, "Anywhere but here!" You just need to get out of Dodge for a second. When you come back, things won't seem so crazy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

You like being generous with your time and resources, but everyone seems to be asking for favors at once. Don't even try to oblige them all. Keep things on a first-come-first-served basis.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Having the ability to see many sides of an issue will make it more difficult for you to arrive at a decision. But when you do finally choose, it will be the right choice.

creators.com

Giving tardy classmate ride now slowing helpful driver

Dear Abby: "Hayley" is one of the few good friends I have at college. We take a class together. It's in a building across campus, so I drive. I always contact Hayley to see if she wants me to take her. (She typically does.)

Because the class requires physical activity, so we dress in appropriate clothing. When I pick Hayley up, I am already dressed and ready to go. The problem is, she isn't. She is either eating or on her computer when I arrive. Once I come in, she begins to get ready. This has made us late for class several times. It has reached the point that I have to arrive earlier and earlier to get her to be on time.

I understand that I am more organized than she is, but it grates on my nerves. I am the one giving her a ride, and she causes us both to be late. I think she should be ready to leave when I get there. I know she has a busy schedule, but this is driving me crazy. I care about Hayley dearly, and I don't want to hurt her feelings. Should I say something to her?

— Campus Clock-Watcher

Dear Clock-Watcher: Yes, absolutely, because Hayley isn't a mind reader and if you haven't

spoken up, she may be under the impression that you don't mind. Tell your friend you are no longer willing to be late to class, you expect her to be ready to leave at the time you get there, and if she isn't, you will leave without her.

Dear Abby



THEN FOLLOW THROUGH. I predict Hayley won't be late after that.

Dear Abby:

I am a single man living in Florida. Without being invited, my sister called to inform me that she and her husband would be coming to visit me over the Christmas-New Year holiday. She said they planned to stay "a month or so" to escape the harsh northern winter. Caught off guard, I said I'd love to have them come for a week or 10 days, but I didn't want them to move in with me. At that point, she became miffed and said not to worry about it — she and my brother-in-law would visit her son in Las Vegas instead.

Now I'm wondering if I was rude. I don't want them planting themselves in my home for months on end, but I don't want to destroy our relationship either. I love them both, but I have a life of my own. Did I make a mistake,

or is it normal for relatives to visit for months?

— Confounded in Florida

Dear Confounded: You did not make a mistake, and it is not "normal" for people to invite themselves to be houseguests as your sister did. Her attitude was presumptuous. Your reaction was honest. What she proposed was an imposition. If defending your privacy "destroys" your relationship, your sibling bond wasn't strong to begin with.

Frankly, I think your sister had a lot of nerve, and her son has my sympathy because it's going to be a long winter in Las Vegas.

Dear Abby: I am in my 70s, and I honestly do not know how to respond when people ask me, "How are you?" I have had many health problems in the last few years, and I don't think anyone really wants to hear about them.

— I'm Just Sayin'

Dear Just Sayin': If you have any reason to think that the person asking the question really doesn't care how you are, then spare him or her an organ recital. Convey the expected response, which is, "I'm fine — how are you?"

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

Dedicating a shrine to new crush not a wise decision

I've been seeing a guy for six months. It's frustrating because I initiate our get-togethers, and he returns my calls but rarely calls me, and we've only been intimate a few times. He went away for five weeks, and because I missed him, I asked if he'd e-mail a photo, which he did. Well, absence makes the heart grow fonder, and I printed the photo, framed it, and placed it on my nightstand. Two weeks after he got back, he came over and noticed the photo, which I left out to see his reaction. He seemed really taken aback. The fact that he didn't leave, and we ended up having sex, gives me some comfort. But, I'm still worried about his response. Although we don't see each other regularly like most couples, I've got no reason to believe he's seeing someone else. But, we also haven't had "The Talk." Perhaps the photo was a good way to initiate it.

— Restless

If absence makes the heart grow fonder, what would you say a restraining order will do? Seeing the framed photo had to make this guy wonder ... no, not what the children will look like, but where's this whack job hiding the rest of her obsession kit: the

butt of that cigarette he smoked, the fork that once touched his lips, the steel door handle he pushed entering the hardware store?

This is a guy you know about three shades better than the guy who makes your latte at Starbucks. Turning your nightstand into Shrine Of The Guy

You're Kinda Sorta Seeing isn't clever or flattering, it's creepyville. Don't kid yourself that it's a good sign he stuck around to knock boots. For a guy, sex is like a bag of chips. If it's in arm's reach, he'll help himself to some.

There's an old line, "Chase a man until he catches you," meaning it's a woman's job to

flirt, to let a guy know she's open to him asking her out. And while some guys will tell you they love when women chase them, men tend to devalue women they don't have to work to get. They might date you, and even get serious with you, but not necessarily because they're really into you, but because hey, you asked, and why not?

To weed these guys out, never do the asking. The most forward sort of thing you should do is maybe tease a guy by leaning in and whispering that he's hot, then continuing on your way.

Advice Goddess



SUDOKU

	6			8				
7		9		4				5
	9		3		5	1		
5							2	
					1	8		7
	7	3	4				1	8
		1		2		6		4
2				3				

Difficulty: Hard

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9.

For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

5	4	9	1	6	2	8	3	7
2	3	7	5	8	4	9	6	1
1	6	8	3	7	9	2	5	4
3	1	6	9	5	8	4	7	2
8	5	4	2	3	7	1	9	6
7	9	2	6	4	1	5	8	3
4	7	5	8	1	3	6	2	9
9	8	3	4	2	6	7	1	5
6	2	1	7	9	5	3	4	8

Crumbling cliff in Calif. forces evacuation



JEFF CHIU/AP

The residents at an apartment building in Pacifica, Calif., were evacuated Thursday over fears their homes could slide into the Pacific.

BY MARCUS WOHLSEN
The Associated Press

PACIFICA, Calif. — A crumbling cliff forced residents to grab what they could and flee an apartment building atop a Northern California coastal bluff over fears it could slide into the Pacific.

Building officials in Pacifica ordered residents out immediately Thursday morning as large chunks of cliff plunged into the ocean, leaving the 12-unit building just 10 feet from the edge of the wave-battered 50-foot bluff.

The evacuation order was issued after part of the cliff, satu-

rated by recent storms, broke off around 5:30 a.m. Thursday, chief building official Doug Rider said.

An initial evacuation deadline of 5 p.m. was moved up as the cliff continued to crumble. Moving trucks filled the street as about 20 frantic residents packed up what belongings they could.

"It's been insane. I can't even think," said Amanda O'Connell, 24, a swim teacher in this town of 38,000 about 10 miles south of San Francisco.

O'Connell said residents were warned earlier in the week about the deteriorating bluff. She and her boyfriend decided to move

some of their larger possessions out early, just in case, she said.

Two nearby buildings also were being monitored but remained stable for the time being, thanks to a wave-deflecting barrier of boulders at the bottom of the bluff, Rider said.

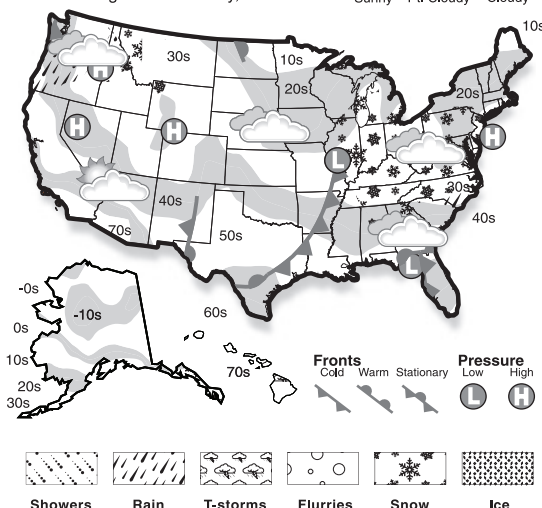
The barrier was erected last spring but did not protect the entire beach. The cliff began crumbling before the barrier could be completed.

The apartment building's owners have received an emergency permit from the California Coastal Commission to put a barrier in place, Rider said.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Saturday, Dec. 19



Major snowstorm hits Northeast

A strong storm system will move through the Northeast over the weekend bringing heavy snowfall to portions of the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast. Snow accumulations could reach a foot or more between Baltimore and New York City.

Weather Underground • AP

Fiday's global temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	La Paz	62	39	po
Amsterdam	32	28	sn	Lima	62	39	po
Astens	68	44	pc	Lisbon	77	67	pc
Auckland	68	57	cl	London	40	30	po
Baghdad	61	59	cl	Madrid	54	33	po
Basra	71	50	cdy	Managua	91	73	cl
Bahrain	72	63	cl	Manila	87	71	cl
Bangkok	91	77	pc	Mecca	88	73	cl
Barbados	85	74	cl	Melbourne	73	53	rr
Barcelona	44	36	pc	Mexico City	69	48	rr
Beijing	26	12	cl	Montevideo	77	59	po
Beirut	63	55	rr	Montreal	3	-3	sn
Belgrade	27	23	sn	Moscow	1	-14	cl
Berlin	28	19	sn	Nairobi	84	54	cl
Bermuda	64	59	rr	Nassau	82	73	rr
Bogota	69	48	pc	New Delhi	73	51	cl
Brasilia	86	65	pc	Nice	44	35	rr
Buenos Aires	83	73	rr	Osaka	46	33	cl
Brussels	32	26	sn	Oslo	21	10	cl
Bucharest	26	20	sn	Panama	91	73	cl
Budapest	24	17	sn	Paris	32	26	sn
Buenos Aires	78	68	cl	Perth	84	55	rr
Cairo	69	58	cl	Prague	20	10	sn
Calgary	43	20	pc	Rio de Janeiro	84	69	rr
Caracas	85	70	cl	Rome	46	41	rr
Colombo	86	75	cl	San Jose	84	67	cl
Copenhagen	30	23	sn	San Juan	83	75	po
Dhahran	73	51	cl	San Salvador	87	66	po
Dhaka	82	65	cl	Santiago	87	56	po
Dili	77	74	cdy	Sao Paulo	83	66	rr
Dubai	87	61	cl	Sapporo	28	19	sn
Durham	49	33	sn	Seattle	56	42	rr
Frankfurt	32	22	sn	Singapore	86	76	rr
Geneva	30	26	sn	Sofia	37	30	sn
Guatemala	78	62	pc	Stockholm	21	19	sn
Hanoi	63	59	rr	Sydney	90	72	rr
Harare	86	61	pc	Taipei	59	53	rr
Havana	87	64	cl	Tegucigalpa	82	60	rr
Helsinki	8	5	sn	Tehran	48	39	rr
Hong Kong	57	50	pc	Tel Aviv	65	53	rr
Islamabad	72	41	cl	Tokyo	50	41	cl
Istanbul	64	40	rr	Turin	36	23	po
Jakarta	91	74	pc	Toronto	23	14	sn
Jerusalem	65	53	rr	Tunis	68	48	rr
Johannesburg	85	59	cl	Valetta	64	53	po
Khulna	44	26	cl	Vancouver	50	41	cl
Kiev	8	1	sn	Vienna	24	17	sn
Kuala Lumpur	90	75	rr	Warsaw	11	8	sn
Kuwait	71	57	rr	Zurich	27	19	sn

SUNDAY'S FORECAST



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Saturday's U.S. temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Casper	36	19	Clr	Erie	31	25	Cldy	Jacksonville	60	37	Cldy	Montgomery	50	30	Cldy	Richmond	33	26	Snow	Springfield, Ill	33	23	Cldy
Abilene, Tex	55	35	PCldy	Charleston, S.C.	36	36	Cldy	Evansville	48	32	Rain	Juneau	31	27	Snow	Nashville	45	30	Cldy	Rochester	35	22	Cldy	Springfield, Mo	35	22	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	31	21	Snow	Charleston, W.Va.	32	29	Snow	Evansville	36	32	Snow	Kansas City	30	19	Snow	New Orleans	54	38	PCldy	Rochester	24	21	PCldy	Syracuse	26	17	PCldy
Albany, N.Y.	21	18	Cldy	Charlotte, N.C.	27	28	Cldy	Fairbanks	-12	-26	Cldy	Key West	72	62	PCldy	New York City	33	25	Snow	Rockford	31	18	Cldy	Tallahassee	59	34	PCldy
Albuquerque	48	27	PCldy	Chattanooga	41	33	Cldy	Fargo	17	11	Cldy	Knoxville	38	34	Snow	Newark	33	25	Snow	Sacramento	57	42	Cldy	Tampa	64	47	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	27	23	Snow	Cheyenne	39	24	PCldy	Flagstaff	42	18	Cldy	Lake Charles	61	35	PCldy	Norfolk, Va.	43	30	Snow	St Louis	35	21	Cldy	Toledo	32	22	Snow
Amarillo	53	25	Clr	Chicago	32	21	Snow	Flint	32	19	Cldy	Lansing	32	19	Snow	North Platte	36	15	PCldy	St Petersburg	64	51	Cldy	Topeka	32	18	Snow
Anchorage	12	10	Cldy	Cincinnati	32	27	Snow	Fort Smith	43	27	Cldy	Las Vegas	62	43	PCldy	Oklahoma City	45	27	Clr	St Thomas	86	76	Rain	Tucson	73	42	Clr
Asheville	38	28	Snow	Cleveland	33	24	Snow	Fort Wayne	33	22	Snow	Lexington	32	25	Snow	Omaha	24	14	Snow	Salem, Ore.	47	41	Cldy	Tulsa	42	26	Cldy
Atlanta	46	34	Cldy	Colorado Springs	44	22	PCldy	Fresno	56	47	PCldy	Lincoln	25	15	Snow	Orlando	66	44	PCldy	Salt Lake City	41	24	PCldy	Uupelo	42	30	Cldy
Atlantic City	32	22	Snow	Columbia, S.C.	43	33	Cldy	Goodland	46	15	Clr	Little Rock	48	30	Cldy	Paducah	32	20	Cldy	San Antonio	62	33	Cldy	Waco	33	23	Cldy
Austin	61	35	PCldy	Columbus, Ga.	52	33	Cldy	Grand Junction	32	0	PCldy	Los Angeles	52	32	Clr	Pensacola	43	35	Cldy	San Antonio	62	33	Cldy	Washington, D.C.	32	28	Snow
Baltimore	30	28	Snow	Columbus, Ohio	23	23	Snow	Grand Rapids	32	19	Snow	Louisville	33	28	Snow	Peoria	31	22	Cldy	San Diego	69	51	Clr	W. Palm Beach	71	49	PCldy
Baton Rouge	52	34	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	29	18	PCldy	Great Falls	40	20	Cldy	Lubbock	53	29	PCldy	Philadelphia	29	24	Snow	San Francisco	58	47	PCldy	Wichita	40	23	PCldy
Billings	39	19	Cldy	Corpus Christi	62	42	Cldy	Green Bay	30	17	Cldy	Macon	53	35	Cldy	Phoenix	71	47	Clr	San Jose	62	46	Cldy	Wichita Falls	54	29	Clr
Birmingham	47	29	Cldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	56	33	PCldy	Greensboro, N.C.	32	26	Snow	Madison	30	14	Cldy	Pittsburgh	30	22	Snow	Santa Fe	44	19	PCldy	Wilkes-Barre	29	19	Snow
Bismarck	26	15	Cldy	Dayton	31	24	Snow	Harrisburg	30	25	Snow	Medford	57	43	Cldy	Pocatello	39	24	Cldy	St Ste Marie	28	14	Snow	Wilmington, Del.	29	24	Snow
Boise	41	34	Cldy	Daytona Beach	67	43	PCldy	Hartford Spgfd	29	21	Cldy	Memphis	41	30	Cldy	Portland, Maine	30	18	Clr	Savannah	54	36	Cldy	Yakima	35	31	Cldy
Boston	32	21	Cldy	Denver	43	21	PCldy	Helena	38	15	Cldy	Miami Beach	75	54	PCldy	Portland, Ore.	40	39	Cldy	Seattle	46	40	Cldy	Youngstown	31	20	Snow
Bridgport	33	15	Snow	Des Moines	32	21	PCldy	Henderson	31	20	PCldy	Midland-Odessa	56	32	PCldy	Providence	32	20	Cldy	Shreveport	31	19	PCldy				
Brownsville	67	49	PCldy	Detroit	32	34	Snow	Houston	60	36	PCldy	Milwaukee	32	21	Cldy	Pueblo	48	16	PCldy	Sioux City	22	15	PCldy				
Buffalo	25	19	Cldy	Duluth	19	08	Cldy	Huntsville	41	31	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	21	13	Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	35	27	Snow	Sioux Falls	24	23	PCldy				
Burlington, Vt.	21	10	Clr	El Paso	58	33	PCldy	Indianapolis	35	25	Snow	Missoula	37	25	Cldy	Rapid City	42	20	Cldy	South Bend	33	22	Snow				
Caribou, Maine	18	05	PCldy	Elkins	27	21	Snow	Jackson, Miss.	45	30	Cldy	Mobile	54	33	PCldy	Reno	43	26	Cldy	Spokane	37	32	Snow				
National temperature extremes																											
High: 84, Fri., Naples, Fla.																											
Low: -25, Fri., Saranac Lake, N.Y.																											

National temperature extremes
High: 84, Fri., Naples, Fla.
Low: -25, Fri., Saranac Lake,
N.Y.



Sell it.....Free!

Advertise your car, truck, motorcycle,
boat, or bicycle in Stripes free!
No charge! On us!
Up to 7 lines of copy for 21 days - free!
Call Classified today at 229-3276
or e-mail us at classifieds@pstripes.osd.mil.
individuals only - no dealers!

Your Hometown Newspaper
STARS AND STRIPES
www.stripes.com

Hospital officials accused of neglect

NV LAS VEGAS — A lawyer for a Las Vegas woman is calling for criminal charges against hospital officials who he said ignored his client in the emergency room so long that she went home and gave birth to a premature baby who died.

Attorney Jacob Hafter accused University Medical Center administrators and nursing officials of criminal neglect for failing to treat Roshunda Abney, 25.

He also accused them of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Abney's premature daughter.

Six face charges in mistaken carjacking

TX MCALLEN — A south Texas fortune teller paid to pray to a "death saint" popular with drug traffickers schemed instead to rob one of her clients of the drug proceeds the woman was ferrying back from Michigan, a police investigator testified.

But authorities said the ad hoc gang assembled by Claudia Elena Gomez, a Mexican citizen living in McAllen, mistakenly targeted an off-duty Border Patrol agent who was driving his 10-year-old daughter to see her grandmother in south Texas.

Gomez and five others have been charged in connection with the mistaken carjacking.

Library book returned after 99 years pass

MA NEW BEDFORD, — The book returned to the New Bedford Public Library in Massachusetts wasn't overdue by a week, a month or even a year. It was nearly a century overdue, and the fine came to \$361.35.

"Facts I Ought to Know about the Government of My Country" was supposed to have been returned by May 10, 1910.

Stanley Dudek told The Standard Times newspaper he came across the book while going through things that had belonged to his mother, who died about 10 years ago.

He decided that returning the book to the city was the right thing to do.

Three face charges in bull rider's death

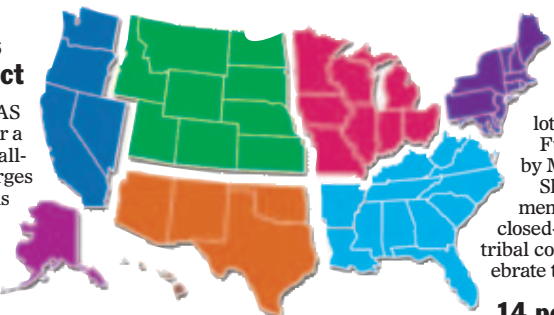
WY CHEYENNE — A Wyoming judge has advanced the cases of three Cheyenne men charged with providing heroin and cocaine that led to the death of a top bull rider.

Kyle Walla, 20; Joel Murdoch, 22; and Rhett Epler, 26, are charged with distributing drugs leading to the death of Bryan Guthrie, 21, also of Cheyenne.

Guthrie was a highly ranked professional bull rider.

U.S. Magistrate Judge William Beaman ruled that federal prosecutors presented enough evidence to require Walla, Murdoch, and Epler to answer the charges in federal court.

A fourth defendant, Christopher Charles Tyson, 35, of Cheyenne, was arrested in Denver.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

15 sick puppies rescued at U.S.-Mexican border

CA LOS ANGELES — Federal authorities in San Diego County rescued 15 sick puppies that were being smuggled across the U.S. border from Mexico to be sold as Christmas gifts, officials said.

The 2-month-old puppies, described as mixed-breed miniature poodles, were discovered by U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers at the Tecate port of entry.

Many of the puppies were suffering from parvo, a virus that is often deadly.

The alleged smuggler was identified as Raul Jimenez Gonzalez. The director of the Animal Services Department, Dawn Danielson, said smuggled puppies are in demand during the holidays.

Tribe wins recognition, first hurdle for casino

NY MELVILLE — Thirty-one years of waiting came to a cathartic end at the Shinnecock Indian reservation as Long Island's largest tribe won a crucial nod in its quest for federal recognition, potentially clearing the way for the region's first casino.

With a call to tribal trustees, officials at the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs told the Shinnecocks they met all seven criteria for federally recognized status. Once finalized, the finding clears the way for badly

needed social programs and funding and the right to open a basic casino with video lottery terminals.

Full status is expected by May.

Shinnecock leaders and members gathered at a closed-door meeting in the tribal community center to celebrate the news.

14 people hurt riding horse-drawn wagon

VA STANLEY — Fourteen people on a holiday wagon-ride in a small western Virginia town were hurt when a car rear-ended the horse-drawn wagon, authorities said.

About 20 adults and children were on the wagon with bolted-down benches and wrought-iron sides and back, which helped protect the riders some, Police Chief Timothy Foster said.

The driver of a 2006 Mustang was not paying attention and slammed into the wagon about 8 p.m., knocking the wagon driver into a yard along Main Street, Foster said.

The Clydesdale horses pulled the wagon and riders for 100 yards before it hit an electric pole.

Navajos vote to reduce size of tribal council

AZ FLAGSTAFF — Navajos voted to drastically reduce the size of the Tribal Council and give their president a line-item veto in the first ballot initiatives ever brought before tribal members on the nation's largest Indian reservation.

Unofficial results from all 110 precincts showed Navajos overwhelmingly favored cutting the council from 88 members to 24. Nearly 61 percent voted for reducing the number of council members while 39 percent voted against.

Navajos supported the line-item veto 59 percent to nearly 41 percent, according to tribal elections officials.

The vote marks a major shift in the tribe's government structure, which was forced upon Navajos some 85 years ago.

Best farmland to be hit with tax increase

MO JEFFERSON CITY — Farmers who own the best agricultural land in Missouri might be saddled with higher taxes starting in 2011 while those with less desirable plots could see their duties cut under a proposal to adjust the productive value of the state's farmland.

The Missouri State Tax Commission has agreed on new productive values on farmland, which are used to calculate property taxes and are determined by evaluating the land's potential agricultural earnings.

Missouri's farms are divided into eight grades based on land quality, with the best farms in Grade 1. The tax commission said it proposes increasing the productive value of farms in the top four categories — which are generally cropland — reducing the values for the next three lower categories and leaving the lowest category unchanged.

If the state Legislature approves the proposed changes, they will take effect Jan. 1, 2011.



Walls of ice to climb

Christian Santelices walks beneath what has been dubbed the KB Wall at the new Teton Ice Park at Grand Targhee Resort near Alta, Wyo. The ice-climbing park is to have about six ice climbs of varying difficulty.



Hanukkah gifts

Students from the Rabbinical College of America wait by a large menorah sponsored by Lubavitcher Center for Jewish passers-by to hand out menorahs, dreidel and chocolate coins during celebration of Hanukkah in Philadelphia.



Hair fight

Pre-kindergarten student Taylor Pugh, 4, is at the center of a battle his parents are waging with Mesquite ISD, a suburban Dallas school that says their son's long locks violate the dress code.



Seeing eye to eye

Dylan Gosewehr, 2, from Indiana, chases shore birds at the Indialantic beach in Melbourne, Fla., where his family was visiting relatives.



Free to chime in

Tuan Nguyen, 19, touches the wind chimes at the Kilmer Center in Vienna, Va., a school for students with intellectual disabilities.



Fill her up

Roberto Ayala, a driver with Hess Oil, delivers 6,200 gallons of heating oil to a New York hotel.

Man falls into pit while exploring cave, dies

KY TATEVILLE — A man slipped into a deep pit and was killed while exploring a treacherous southeastern Kentucky cave, officials said. Crews worked for hours to recover the body of Steven Troxell, 21, who died of blunt force trauma, Pulaski County Coroner Richard New said. Troxell and two companions were walking inside the Sloans Valley cave when he fell into the 30-foot-deep pit. Troxell's body was found about three-quarters of a mile inside the cave, which is part of a system that meanders about 25 miles beneath private and public lands in a part of Kentucky known for its outdoor recreation.

Players beat bat to death with their hockey sticks

WI ASHWAUBENON — An American junior hockey team is under fire from animal rights activists for killing a bat that flew into its arena during a game. Coach Jon Cooper of the Green Bay Gamblers in Wisconsin defended his decision to send three of his players to go after the bat with sticks in hand. Cooper told WLUK-TV the incident has turned into "Batgate," and said his concern was protecting the players and the hundreds of fans in the arena from any threat of rabies. Tori Perry of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said the team should have tried to net the animal and release it.

Court eyes value of love of man's best friend

VT MONTPELIER — The Vermont Supreme Court is set to hear a long-running dispute over whether the owners of a dog that was fatally shot can collect damages for loss of companionship and emotional distress. Denis and Sarah Scheele sued Lewis Dustin after he shot their mixed-breed dog in 2003 when it wandered onto his property in Northfield. The Scheeles were visiting from Annapolis, Md. Dustin, who was convicted of animal cruelty, maintained he was trying to scare the dog with his pellet gun and never intended to kill it. The Scheeles said the dog, Shadow, was part of their family, not property.

Food bank pioneers gluten-free donations

CO LOVELAND — As a mother of seven, Anne Miller already had a whopping grocery bill. When doctors recommended her teenage daughter go on a gluten-free diet, the family food bill went higher than Miller could afford. So Miller was first in line when a food pantry in this northern Colorado city began promoting gluten-free food for needy families with wheat allergies. The food pantry, founded in 1961, opened its gluten-free food section after local activists with wheat allergies volunteered to pull it together. Activists said the food bank is the nation's first with a special program for people with celiac disease, a wheat allergy whose patients suffer intestinal damage if they eat gluten.

Rescued sailor ends up in homeless shelter

TX HOUSTON — An 80-year-old sailor who was rescued after 10 days in the Gulf of Mexico is staying at a Houston homeless shelter while acquaintances try to retrieve his sailboat. Yacht dealer Jim Hedges said Kenneth Ketchum sold his home — a recreational vehicle — to buy the boat. Ketchum had been sailing solo to Mexico. Hedges said he is organizing efforts to get the boat to port. A Coast Guard helicopter found Ketchum about 115 miles from Sabine after he sent a distress signal.

Men admit stealing seed pods from national park

UT SALT LAKE CITY — Two men pleaded guilty to trying to steal 600 pounds of wildflower seed pods in Utah's Zion National Park in hopes of a payday on the commercial market. Cresencio Martinez-Guzman, 44, and Cresencio Lucena-Alvarez, 23, who were sentenced to probation, also admitted being in the U.S. illegally. Court records say the pair apparently spent weeks in a remote portion of the park pinching Palmer's penstemon, a tall-growing native plant whose seeds are often used for reseeding projects. Commercial seed collecting is legal on other federal lands with a permit but not in Zion.

Woman accused of concealing mom's death

NC WILMINGTON — A woman was charged with keeping the corpse of her elderly mother in their home for months before the body was discovered in the woman's bed. Amy Blanche Stewart, 47, was charged with concealment of death, which is considered a low-level felony in North Carolina, the New Hanover County Sheriff's Office said. Stewart was charged one day after police said a 911 caller reported that Blanche Matilda Roth, 87, was unconscious and not breathing. Police said she likely died in May. New Hanover County Deputy Charles Smith said caregivers daily had been going in and out of the house. He said the caregivers were not nurses.

Starving snakes, dead rodents found in raid

TX ARLINGTON — Starving snakes, dead rodents and hundreds of reptiles packed in shipping crates were discovered when animal welfare groups in Texas raided an exotic animal delivery company, officials said. Dozens of people with the city of Arlington, SPCA of Texas and the Humane Society of North Texas took inventory of the animals — estimated at 20,000 — and removed them from U.S. Global Exotics. "Sometimes animals die, but the amount of animals dead far exceeded what you would normally see at any company like this," said Jay Sabatucci, manager of animal services with the city of Arlington. "Animals were not fed, not fed properly, overcrowded and attacking each other."

STARS AND STRIPES.

MAX D. LEDERER JR., PUBLISHER
JOHN D. PANASIEWICZ, GENERAL MANAGER
LT. COL. AUTUM WHALEN, COMMANDER

NEWS AND EDITORIAL

TERRY LEONARD, Editorial Director
HOWARD WITT, Senior Managing Editor
ROBB GRINDSTAFF, Managing Editor

PACIFIC

Thomas P. Skeen, Pacific Bureau Chief
Chris Carlson, Assistant Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Assistant Managing Editors

Eric Brandner, News
Brian Bowers, Features
Sean Moores, Sports
Christopher Six, Photo/Graphics
Joe Grometski, Web

ADDRESSES

U.S. MAIL: Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002
INTERNATIONAL MAIL: 23-17 Roppongi, 7-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan
FAX: DSN 229-3132; civ (+81) (3) 3408-8936
E-MAIL: Readers Forum: letters@pstripes.osd.mil
Advertising: advertising@pstripes.osd.mil
Marketing: marketing@pstripes.osd.mil
Circulation: circulation@pstripes.osd.mil
CENTRAL OFFICE: 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301
Phone: DSN 312-763-0900 or civ (+1) (202) 761-0900.
Fax: (+1) (202) 761-0890
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Terry Leonard, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20045-1301.
Phone: DSN 312-763-0535 or civ (+1) (202) 761-0535.
E-mail: leonard.terry@pstripes.osd.mil

HOW TO CALL US

GENERAL MANAGER: John D. Panasiewicz, tel DSN 229-3121; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3121
READERS' FORUM: tel DSN 229-3166; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3166; e-mail letters@pstripes.osd.mil
SPORTS: Dave Ornaier, tel DSN 645-7433; civ (+81) (98) 893-2702; e-mail ornaierd@pstripes.osd.mil
For business, advertising and circulation numbers, turn to the classified section.

NEWS BUREAUS

JAPAN

Tokyo Editors: Thomas P. Skeen, Chris Carlson, Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002; tel DSN 229-3357/3158; civ (3) 6385-3357/3158; fax DSN 229-3271; civ (+1) (81) (3) 3408-8936; e-mail skeent@pstripes.osd.mil; carlsonc@pstripes.osd.mil
Tokyo Reporters: Teri Weaver, Hana Kusumoto and Tim Wightman, tel DSN 229-3105, 229-3152 and 229-3166; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3105/3152/3166; fax DSN 229-3271; e-mail weavert@pstripes.osd.mil; kusumotoh@pstripes.osd.mil; wightmant@pstripes.osd.mil
Misawa: T.D. Flack, tel DSN 226-2550; civ (0176) 53-5181 ext. 226-2550; (81) 3117-66-2550; fax DSN 226-3847; e-mail flacktd@pstripes.osd.mil
Sasebo/Iwakuni: Travis Tritten, PSC 476, Box 726, FPO AP 96322-1126; tel DSN 252-3832; civ (0956) 50-3832; fax DSN 252-3878; e-mail trittrtt@pstripes.osd.mil
Yokosuka/Atsugi: Erik Slavin and David Carter, tel DSN 241-2874/2873; civ (3) 04-6896-2874; cell 090-8054-8241; fax DSN 241-2876; e-mail slavin@pstripes.osd.mil; carterd@pstripes.osd.mil
Yokota/Camp Zama/Camp Fuji: Grant Okubo, Charlie Reed and Bryce Dube, Unit 5058 APO AP 96328-5058; cell 080-5641-1935 (Dube); tel DSN 225-9233 (Reed); e-mail okubog@pstripes.osd.mil; reedc@pstripes.osd.mil; dubeeb@pstripes.osd.mil
Okinawa: David Allen, Chiyomi Sumida and Matthew Orr, Camp Foster, Unit 5517, FPO AP 96374; tel DSN 645-3807 or civ (+81) (98) 893-2702; fax DSN 645-9165; e-mail okibureau@pstripes.osd.mil

KOREA

Seoul Office: Unit 15334, APO AP 96205-0423; tel DSN 721-7131/7132/7134 or civ (+82) (2) 2270-7132/7134; e-mail koreabureau@pstripes.osd.mil
Area I: (Camp Red Cloud): Jon Rabirotf. Mail to: USAG-RC, Area 1, Unit 15707, Box 125, APO AP 96258. Tel (comm.): 031-873-6720; cell 010-8917-1959; e-mail: rabirotfj@pstripes.osd.mil
Area II: (Yongsan Garrison): Ashley Rowland, Hwang Hae-rym and Alfredo Jimenez Jr. Mail to Unit 15334, APO AP 96205-0423; tel DSN 721-7131, 721-7132 or 721-7134, civ (+82)(2) 2270-7131/7132/7134; e-mail: rowlanda@pstripes.osd.mil; hwangh@pstripes.osd.mil; jimenez@pstripes.osd.mil; koreabureau@pstripes.osd.mil; fax DSN 721-7141
Area III, IV: (Osan Air Base, Camp Humphreys, Kunsan Air Base, Chinhae Naval Base) Franklin Fisher. Mail to Unit 15334, APO AP 96295-0423; tel DSN 784-2751 or civ (+82)(31) 661-2751; fax DSN 784-4523; e-mail fisherf@pstripes.osd.mil

WASHINGTON D.C.

Assistant bureau chief: Derek Turner, tel civ (+1)(202) 761-0860; e-mail Turner@pstripes.osd.mil. Reporters: Jeff Schogol, tel DSN (312) 222-1926; tel civ (+1)(703) 692-1926; e-mail jeffrey.schogol@pstripes.osd.mil; Leo Shane, tel DSN (312) 763-1183; tel civ (+1)(202) 761-1183; e-mail shanel@pstripes.osd.mil; Kevin Baron, tel DSN (312) 222-1875; tel civ (+1)(703) 692-1875; e-mail baronk@pstripes.osd.mil; and Megan McCloskey, e-mail mclloskeym@pstripes.osd.mil 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; fax civ (+1)(202) 761-0890

Stars and Stripes (USPS 017252) is published daily (except Christmas and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and \$1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripes central office, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, Calif. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

OMBUSMAN: MARK J. PRENDERGAST

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by e-mail at ombudsman@pstripes.osd.mil, or by phone at 202-761-0945.

© Stars and Stripes 2009

STARS AND STRIPES WEB SITE: WWW.STRIPES.COM

OPINION

Even Obama backers are backing off

BY KATHLEEN PARKER

WASHINGTON
Perhaps it is the spirit of the season, but my empathy receptors are in overdrive for poor Barack Obama. All he wanted for Christmas was a health care reform bill — and all he got was a lousy insurance industry bailout that few can love. Lefties hate it because there's no public option and no Medicare buy-in for those 55 and over. Righties hate it because mandating that Americans buy private insurance or face penalties means taxpayers will have to hand over more of their hard-earned dollars (assuming they have a job) to the government.

Obama, in other words, is having a Harriet Miers moment. Or rather, he's having a George W. Bush moment.

When Bush nominated the in-over-her-head Miers to the Supreme Court, his fan base turned on him. As one ardent Bush supporter told me at the time: "It was in that moment that I realized he really might not know what he's doing."

And so things seem to have turned for

Obama. Left-leaning Democrats suddenly are wondering: Who is this guy? What happened to the liberal dream-maker who was going to provide health care to every person in the country while hand-feeding grateful polar bears basking on vast new expanses of restored sea ice?

Obama didn't so much move center as he just stood there and let others craft his seminal legislation. Now, it would appear, he can't quite close the deal.

The rabble from Democrats must be deeply rousing for Republicans exhausted by their own circular firing squad, as they watch the left collapse on itself like an imploding black hole. Republicans now need only get out of the way as leaders on the left are forming their own death panels to urge euthanizing the Senate health bill.

"Kill it," says Howard Dean. "Kill it," says Arianna Huffington, founder of The Huffington Post. "Kill this monstrosity," says Markos Moulitsas, founder of the Daily Kos Web site, which vigorously fertilized Obama's grass roots.

Meanwhile, Obama's poll numbers continue to tumble. A Rasmussen poll released Monday shows that just 40 percent of voters favor the health care plan and 56 percent oppose it. Sixty-three percent of seniors oppose the plan.

In its daily presidential tracking poll, Rasmussen showed Friday that only 28 percent of the nation's voters strongly approve of Obama's performance, while 42 percent strongly disapprove. Overall, 44 percent "somewhat approve" of the president's performance.

Suddenly, the entire organism known as "Obama" seems endangered, not to mention all those Democrats up for re-election in just 10 short months. Those looking for a scapegoat have pointed to Joe Lieberman for gutting the Senate bill of the public option and the Medicare expansion.

But the health care rift is only a symptom of a more serious disease afflicting this administration. It isn't so much hubris, though that is part of the problem. It isn't even narcissism, primarily. Obama's fever is grandiosity — an inflated self-confidence and a sense of power exceeding one's means.

Most politicians suffer some degree of grandiosity, or else they'd never run for office. But Obama's is of a higher order, in part owing to a worshipful world (see

The growing sense now is that Obama is desperate — for any kind of bill. What matters is checking the box next to "health care reform" and declaring some kind of victory.

Berlin) and a confluence of urgent events. Cutting the man some slack, no one could pull off what he has attempted to manage — two wars, a crashing global

economy, climate change, health care, energy and unemployment. The scope of such challenges is what prompted man once upon a time to invent deities.

Obama, a mere mortal, is having to invent himself, learning a painful executive lesson in the process: One cannot be all things to all people, nor is it possible to do several things at once effectively. The image that comes to mind is of a dog racing down the beach to chase a flock of seagulls.

The growing sense now is that Obama is desperate — for any kind of bill. What matters is checking the box next to "health care reform" and declaring some kind of victory.

Thus, the man who was going to remain above the political fray has revealed himself as pluperfectly political, ready to settle for the very kind of mandate (without the public option) that he opposed as a candidate challenging Hillary Rodham Clinton. Rather than inspiring confidence, he has inspired a groundswell of disapproval and a populist uprising that may allow Republicans to clean the House come November.

In the meantime, left and right finally have discovered a common foe. Too bad for the country that his name is Obama.

Kathleen Parker is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.



OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

H1N1 shot: The must-have gift

The Des Moines (Iowa) Register
The H1N1 flu scared the heck out of many Americans. Nervousness was fed by a growing number of death reports and an H1N1 vaccine shortage. Americans stood in long lines — in the cold and rain sometimes — to get vaccinated. And those fortunate enough to get protection were usually considered at high risk of having complications if they got sick. They were among those in “priority groups” because there wasn’t enough vaccine for everyone.

Now everyone is a priority.
Any Iowan who wants an H1N1 vaccine is eligible to receive one. ... Iowans should go get vaccinated.

Because the flu season is far from over. Winter hasn’t even officially started and the holidays will bring people — and all their viruses — together. ...

Health officials say at least 10,000 Americans have died from H1N1 so far. ... By now, most of us know someone who has been sick with the bug.

The vaccine will prevent that from happening to more people. ...

Go get an H1N1 vaccination. It’s a gift to you and your family that will keep on protecting.

Most immigrants loyal to U.S.

San Diego Union-Tribune
For as long as America has been taking in immigrants — in other words, as long as there has been America — there have been concerns about divided loyalties. At one point or another, members of just about every group of newcomers — the Greeks, Italians, Irish — has been accused of leaving their heart in their home country and willing to put the interests of the place they left behind ahead of American interests.

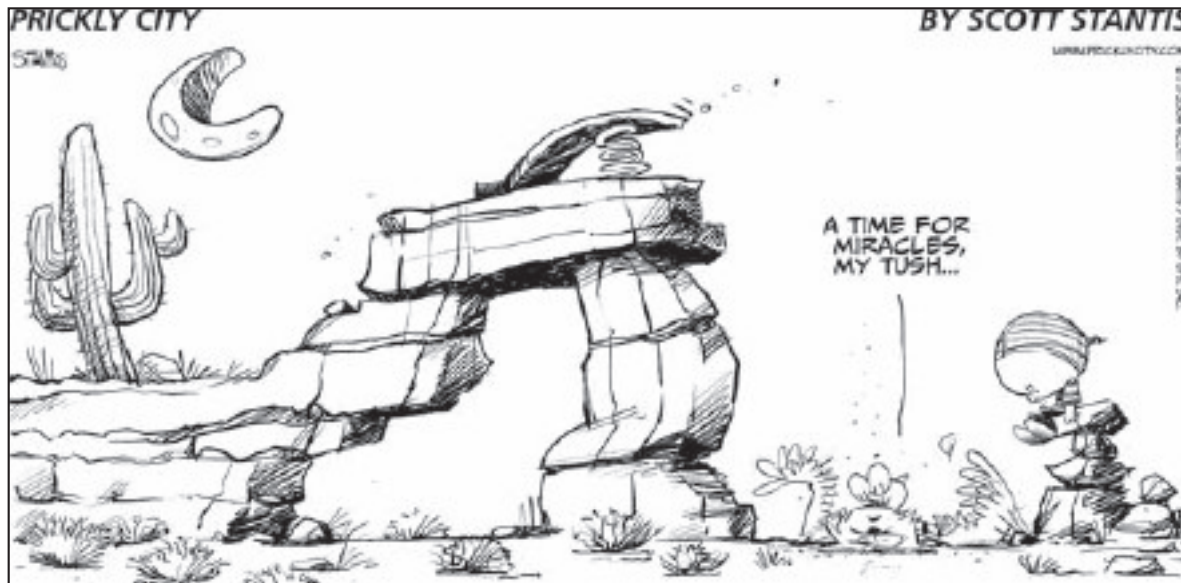
We’re glad to report that, for the most part, these fears have been unfounded. ... However, there’s a disturbing story developing in Pakistan that raises new concerns about loyalties divided by culture.

This month, Pakistani officials reported the arrest of five young Muslim-American men, at least two of whom are foreign-born immigrants and all of whom carried American passports showing they now live in Northern Virginia. They had somehow made their way to the Pakistani town of Sargodha. ... According to authorities, the youths had gone to South Asia with plans to wage jihad against American interests in Pakistan and possibly Afghanistan by linking up with militant groups in the region. They were rejected by the real terrorists there, who considered these wannabe jihadists too Westernized to be trusted. ...

This kind of cultural alienation in which young Americans can be radicalized ... is troubling. But there’s another, more encouraging side to the coin. The case of the Sargodha 5 came to light after the families of the young men went to a local Muslim community organization to report their sons missing and someone there contacted the FBI, which began to investigate. By all accounts, the Muslim community in Northern Virginia cooperated fully with federal authorities once the inquiry started. It was the patriotic thing to do.

Gonzales dug in on past acts

Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram
Faux talk show host Stephen Colbert runs a hilariously subversive, sort-of educational segment on Comedy Central’s “Colbert Report” called “Better Know



a District” that features sit-downs with members of the U.S. House.

Colbert starts out providing tidbits of information about a congressional district then shows himself interviewing its elected representative. Those members of Congress who consent to be a target and actually get the joke play along gamely, understanding that even humiliation equals national face time. The interview video inevitably is edited to make the officials look ridiculous and draw laughs.

Point is, you never quite know how the original interview went or what was left out from the publicly presented version.

Esquire magazine is no “Colbert Report.” But a new interview with former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales makes a reader want to know what else he said. Titled “What I’ve Learned,” the piece is presented strictly as quotes from Gonzales on controversies during his 31-month tenure as the nation’s top lawyer, from the Geneva Conventions and Abu Ghraib photos to Washington politics and the removal of nine U.S. attorneys in 2006.

But it’s not clear that Gonzales, who resigned in 2007 and now is helping Texas Tech University recruit more minority students, learned at all.

If the quotes are to be believed, Gonzales considers it “totally ridiculous” to suggest that the abuse of Iraqi war prisoners at Abu Ghraib resulted from Bush administration policies. He believes that “90 percent of what happened to me” stemmed from politics aimed at trying to “knock out” his boss, rather than from his own poor judgment and flawed actions. ...

The magazine also quotes him as saying, “I know there are households in this country where it was a big deal that someone named Gonzales was the attorney general of the United States.”

It was a big deal when George W. Bush named the first Latino to head the Justice Department. It also was a big deal when he left — but, sadly, for all the wrong reasons.

Admit U.S. ripped off Indians

The Lincoln (Neb.) Journal Star
If members of Congress take the time to examine the history of the Native trust system, they won’t have to think twice about approving the proposed \$3 billion settlement in a long-running lawsuit over the way it was managed for more than a century. ...

The system was fashioned in 1887 under the Daves Act. It broke up reservations and assigned parcels to individual citizens. The government, however, continued to hold the land in trust, leasing it to oil and gas companies, miners and loggers.

The government began losing track of the accounts almost immediately. As generations passed, the land was broken into smaller and smaller pieces until the standing joke among the tribal members was that they had just enough land to stand on.

That was about the only humor that could be found in the trust’s history. One of its bloodiest chapters was a spree of murders targeting Osage tribal citizens after oil was discovered on their reservation. ...

Now, after more than a century of scandal and swindles, the proposed \$3 billion-plus settlement offers some redress and the potential to improve the system. About \$1.4 billion would be for cash payments to individual Natives with land held in trust. About \$2 billion would be used to buy back and consolidate land and turn it over to tribes. About \$60 million would be used to create a scholarship fund for tribal members to attend college or vocational school.

By agreeing to the settlement, Congress can and should finally bring a degree of closure to this disgrace, and finally put the trust system on the path to reform.

What Senate pig-out portends

The Philadelphia Inquirer
A \$1.1 trillion spending bill approved by the Senate last Sunday shows that Congress isn’t serious about the nation’s ballooning debt problem. ...

Several government agencies received double-digit increases, in spite of all the extra spending that Congress approved in the \$787 billion economic recovery bill in February. President Barack Obama has taken much of the heat for high spending this year. But in many cases in this latest bill, lawmakers allocated more funds than the president requested. ...

Both parties have run up big deficits over the last three decades. The Democrats happen to be the current perpetrators-in-charge. But this enormous accumulation of public debt will soon start to harm Americans’ standard of living through depressed wages, a weaker dollar, and higher interest rates.

The public debt stands at 53 percent of the annual value of the national economy. On its current path, it would reach 85 percent of gross domestic product in 2018.

The federal government can’t get out of the mess it has created all at once. Congress needs to exert discipline on every bill, year after year, to put the country on a responsible fiscal course.

Protections help wolves return

The Arizona Republic
In a wintry forest in eastern Arizona, wolf howls cut the cushiony silence of falling snow. It is eloquent testimony to the success of the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction effort. Yes. We said success.

We say this as the program continues to be tarred by both supporters and critics.

Mexican gray wolves were reintroduced more than a decade ago from a remnant population of captive animals. They learned to live, hunt and reproduce in the wild.

That’s success. But the program was dogged by the low growl of politics since before the first wolf took her first step to freedom. The thud of legal papers hitting the courts is another familiar sound.

Ranchers who lease grazing rights on public land say the wolves threaten their livelihood. Environmentalists say the reintroduction effort was designed more to placate public-land ranchers than to serve wolf recovery.

Wolf numbers support the argument of environmentalists. The current population is about 52 animals; wildlife biologists expected twice that many by now.

The paltry population is largely the result of a long-controversial policy that doomed a wolf after his third confirmed livestock kill. ... The three-strikes policy was ended as part of a settlement of a lawsuit by a coalition of environmental groups. ...

This is not a local issue. The preservation of species diversity is a national goal reflected in the federal Endangered Species Act. It has significance well beyond the perceived or real inconveniences wolves cause public-land ranchers.

Zoo’s loss is species’ gain

The Washington Post
There’s no denying the love Washington feels for its giant pandas. So the sadness surrounding this month’s announcement that Tai Shan, the panda born in the zoo in 2005, soon will be sent to China is understandable. It’s clear, though, that Tai Shan can do more for the panda-loving world by going to China to make babies rather than staying in the District of Columbia to mollify his fans.

Officials at the National Zoo have announced that the 4-year-old giant panda will depart early next year. It’s part of the agreement that brought Tai Shan’s parents — Mei Xiang and Tian Tian — to the United States in 2000 as part of a research and breeding program. ...

What shouldn’t be missed in all the hoopla about Washington “losing” Tai Shan is that the whole point of the giant panda breeding at zoos is to save an endangered species and create a diversified gene pool that strengthens the species. There are only about 1,600 giant pandas in the wild and just a little more than 200 in captivity. Panda reproduction has been difficult in captivity, but there have been encouraging gains in recent years. The San Diego Zoo has sent two cubs to China to breed, and one of them has given birth to seven cubs in China. We can hope that Tai Shan will emulate that example.

PERSPECTIVES

Hitting a wall on human rights

By JOSHUA KURLANTZICK
The Washington Post

In accepting his Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo on Dec. 10, President Barack Obama talked about the quiet dignity of human rights reformers such as Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi, the bravery of Zimbabwean voters who "cast their ballots in the face of beatings" and the need to bear witness to "the hundreds of thousands who have marched silently through the streets of Iran." Earlier in the week, thousands of Iranians did just that, gathering at university campuses in the most substantial demonstrations in the country since the summer, when hundreds of thousands protested Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's disputed presidential election.

But back in June, even as much of the world cheered the Iranian protesters, Obama seemed reluctant to weigh in. "It is not productive ... to be seen as meddling," he said. The White House may have feared that public support from Obama would allow the regime to paint the demonstrators as American stooges or might undermine U.S. efforts on Tehran's nuclear program. Such fears seemed to paralyze the administration.

The irony of Obama's Nobel Prize is not that he accepted it while waging two wars. After all, as Obama said in Oslo: "One of these wars is winding down. The other is a conflict that America did not seek." The stranger thing is that, from China to Sudan, from Myanmar to Iran, a president lauded for his commitment to peace has dialed down a U.S. commitment to human rights, one that persisted through both Republican and Democratic administrations dating back at least to Jimmy Carter. And so far, he has little to show for it.

The reasons for this shift are complicated. After conversations with current Obama advisers and former White House officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity, I've concluded that the president's reasons for demoting human rights may have been well-intentioned — even if the strategy isn't working out as he planned.

For one thing, Obama clearly wants to distinguish himself from George W. Bush, who tainted the human rights agenda by linking it to the

Obama has his Nobel, but he earns no prize for letting the world's worst regimes skate

war in Iraq and by adopting a moralistic, evangelical tone about democracy. According to administration officials, this desire may have led Obama, early on, to be reticent about forcefully advocating democracy abroad, even as he boosted funding for democracy promotion. But they say the president is now talking more aggressively about democracy and human rights.

Some officials believe negotiating about human rights behind the scenes works better than bullying in public, since it permits nasty regimes to save face while, at least theoretically, allowing them to quietly make concessions. And some of the administration's top human rights advocates came into office focused, not unnecessarily, on cleaning up America's own abuses — believing human rights advocacy starts with setting a better example at home.

In other cases, Obama seems to have decided that winning support on challenges such as nuclear proliferation and climate change means treading quietly around human rights. With China, the president may also be hesitant to risk alienating our \$800 billion banker. Finally, the president seems to believe that, no matter how brutal a government he is dealing with, he can find common cause.

Yet there is little evidence that his strategy will succeed. Obama may have toned down U.S. rhetoric, but who's to say whether this will propel Iran and North Korea to halt their nuclear programs, or whether China will prove to be an effective partner on climate change. "The harder-to-fathom thing for me is why they think that cutting off support — rhetorical or material — to democrats and dissidents in repressive societies will gain the U.S. anything on the other agendas," said Tom Melia, deputy executive director of Freedom House, a global democracy watchdog. ...

In testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee this year, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton noted

"three Ds" that would allow the United States "to exercise global leadership effectively": defense, development and diplomacy. Democracy didn't make the cut.

The extent of the administration's shift is also visible on the ground — even if the payoffs aren't. In Egypt, the U.S. has cut funding to independent civil society groups that promote democracy and is instead working more closely with government-linked nonprofits, according to several human rights activists who closely follow Egypt. "The administration doesn't want to antagonize Egypt, a major Middle East ally, now that they might need Egypt's help if there is going to be action against Iran," said David Schenker of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, who previously worked on Middle East issues in the Bush administration.

In Sudan, a country whose leader is under indictment by the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity, U.S. policy now involves closer dealings than in recent years, and the administration's special envoy to the region, Maj. Gen. Scott Graton, has de-emphasized human rights abuses there. In September, he told The Washington Post that the United States should be "giving out cookies" to Khartoum, offering inducements for good behavior rather than punishment for bad — as if a regime accused of genocide were a misbehaving child.

Obama has changed the U.S. approach toward Myanmar, too. For more than a decade, Washington emphasized the use of sanctions, visa bans and other tools to isolate the Burmese junta, which is accused of overseeing forced labor, mass rape campaigns and other abuses. But the Obama administration has called for direct dialogue with the junta. And although the assistant secretary of state for East Asia and the Pacific, Kurt Campbell, has noted in congressional testimony that the administration maintains sanctions and is not writing the regime a blank check, it's not clear exactly what further bad deeds the junta would have to commit to warrant a more severe reprimand.

Of course, the administration's approach toward China has attracted the most notice. On his recent trip, Obama was conspicuously silent about human rights in his public statements. At a town hall forum in Shanghai, he responded to a question about the Internet by saying, "I'm a strong supporter of noncensorship" — a strangely twisted phrase.

Later, in a news conference with President Hu Jintao (in which the two men took no questions from journalists), Obama said

that he "welcomes China's efforts in playing a greater role on the world stage," but he did not criticize Beijing's human rights record or mention its recent crackdown on Uighurs in Xinjiang. "We were told that the administration privately brought up Uighur issues, but that's it," said Omar Kanat, vice president of the World Uighur Congress, an activist group.

And in October, Obama's administration became the first since 1991 not to meet with the Dalai Lama, even privately, when the Tibetan leader was in Washington. According to Kanat, the administration has also refused any high-level meetings with Rabeeya Kadeer, the most prominent Uighur dissident and a woman welcomed to the White House by Bush. ...

When asked about these points, one administration official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, replied that the White House has welcomed other dissidents, including several Zimbabwean activists, and said administration officials will try to meet with Kadeer soon.

"Advancing human rights and promoting democratic principles are key tenets of this Administration's foreign policy," said the National Security Council's spokesman, Mike Hammer, in an e-mail. "The Obama Administration will meet with dissidents any time those meetings can serve to advance a just cause. The President spoke in Shanghai to an on-line audience of millions of Chinese about human rights and democratic freedoms as universal values. The President has been interviewed by a Cuban dissident blogger as well as the progressive Chinese Southern Weekly, and he will meet with the Dalai Lama." ...

For all Obama's compromises, the choice between human rights and other priorities may be a false one. Obama may not need to pick between criticizing regimes like those in China and Iran and working with those governments on other challenges. "You can see the Dalai Lama and rhetorically push on human rights and still have the other elements of the relationship with China," said Sophie Richardson of Human Rights Watch.

Obama's speech in Oslo reminded us why the Nobel committee decided to honor him: This was Obama at the height of his oratorical powers, speaking of war and peace and, yes, human rights, and calling upon mankind to "reach for the world that ought to be." But the committee didn't set out to merely applaud Obama's great rhetoric; it bestowed this honor on him as an aspirational prize, one that would inspire him to even greater actions.

"The promotion of human rights cannot be about exhortation alone," Obama said. "... We must try as best we can to balance isolation and engagement; pressure and incentives, so that human rights and dignity are advanced over time."

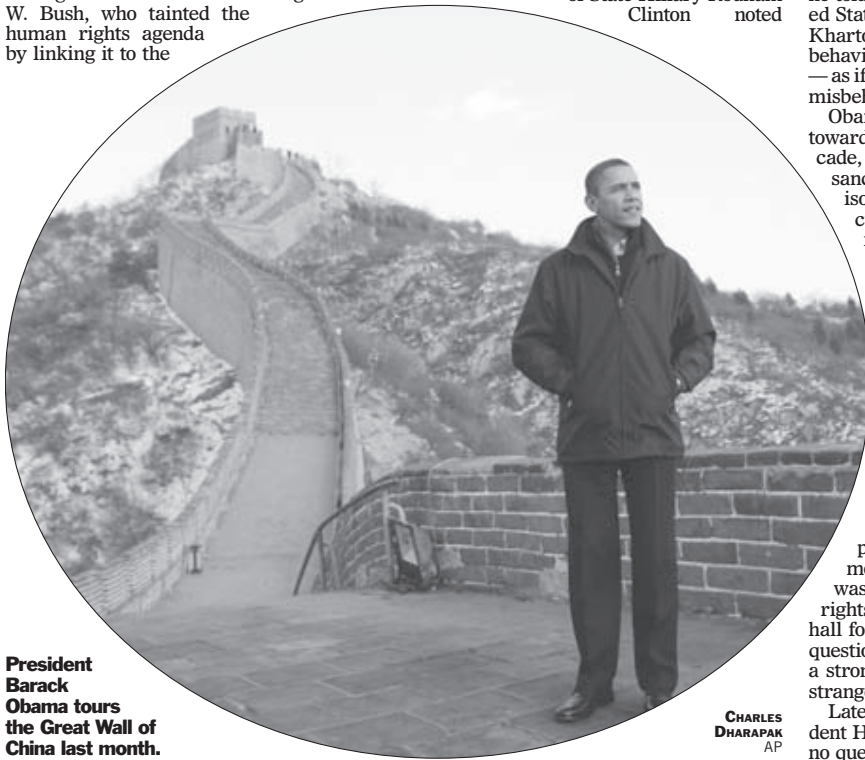
Let's hope he follows through.

Joshua Kurlantzick is a fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.



KHIN MAUNG WIN/AP

Myanmar's detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi exits the Inya Lake Hotel after meeting with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell in Yangon, Myanmar, on Nov. 4.



President Barack Obama tours the Great Wall of China last month.

CHARLES DHARAPAK AP

AFN Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at www.myafn.net

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2009

	AFN/prime Atlantic	AFN/family	AFN/movie	AFN/news	AFN/prime Pacific	PENTAGON	AFN/spectrum	AFN/sports	AFN/xtra
15:00	Dragon Invent something.	Animal Miracles	(10:10) Movie "Noel" (2004) Penelope Cruz. Troubled people find unexpected happiness on the holidays.	Your World With Neil Cavuto	Deadliest Catch "No Mercy"	AFN Europe Report The Grill Sergeants	Lost Sun's and Jin's lives are in danger.	SportsCenter	Hot Stove
15:30	Ribert & Robert's								
16:00	Maya & Miguel	Hercules: The Legendary Journeys "The Lost City"		The Rachel Maddow Show	Law & Order "Strike"	Fit For Duty Battleground	Stargate Atlantis "Vengeance"	SportsCenter	NFL Total Access
16:30	Tutenstein								
17:00	Naruto	Disney Princess: A Christmas of Enchantment	Movie "Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason" (2004, Romance-Comedy) Renée Zellweger, Hugh Grant.	Around the Services Tavis Smiley	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Riojas Family"	Ft. Hood on Track Week-Pentagon	2009 Hollywood Christmas Parade Grand Marshal Susan Lucci.	NBA Basketball Utah Jazz at Atlanta Hawks. From Philips Arena in Atlanta. (Same-day Tape)	Top 20 Countdown
17:30	Instant Star								
18:00	Ent. Studios	The Happy Elf		Nightly Business Report Nightline	World News-Gibson ESPNEWS	Recon Recon Revisited			Top 20 Countdown
18:30	Crisis Angel Mindfreak								
19:00	Ax Men "Clash of the Titans"	So You Think You Can Dance	Movie "Bad Santa" (2003) Billy Bob Thornton. Two criminals disguise themselves as St. Nick and an elf.	The O'Reilly Factor	One Tree Hill "Choosing My Own Way of Life"	Army Newswatch Week-Pentagon	Gary Unmarried		ECW
19:30									
20:00	Access Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance		Countdown With Keith Olbermann	CSI: NY "Green Piece"	The Grill Sergeants Fit For Duty	The Big Bang Theory Saturday Night Live Presents: A Very Gilly Christmas Holiday sketches.	NFL Total Access	WWE SmackDown!
20:30									
21:00	Deadliest Catch "No Mercy"								
21:30									
22:00	Law & Order "Strike"	Twelve Days Of Christmas Eve	(8:50) Movie "The Year Without a Santa Claus" (2006, Comedy) John Goodman.	Today	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	Battleground Balad and Beyond	Saturday Night Live	NBA Basketball Milwaukee Bucks at Cleveland Cavaliers. From Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland. (Same-day Tape)	SportsNation Colin Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
22:30			(3:35) Movie "Black Hawk Down" (2001, War) Josh Hartnett, Ewan McGregor.		Headline News Futurama	All Hands TV Pacific Report			Attack of the Show!
23:00	One Tree Hill "Choosing My Own Way of Life"			MSNBC Live	The Game The Class	Army Newswatch Freestyle Iraq			
23:30							Austin City Limits		

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009

00:00	CSI: NY "Green Piece"	The Simpsons	(10:35) Movie "Black Hawk Down" (2001, War) Josh Hartnett, Ewan McGregor.	Bulls and Bears Cavuto on Business	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Cold"	Recon This Week in the Pentagon	(11:30) Austin City Limits Keeping Up-Kardashians	SportsCenter	Top 20 Countdown
00:30		The Simpsons							
1:00	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	The Happy Elf		Forbes on FOX Cashin' In	Bones "The Widow's Son in the Windshield"	FNG Useful benefits. Fit For Duty	Trading Spouses: Meet Your New Mommy (Part 1 of 2)		Top 20 Countdown
1:30			(2:20) Movie "Hard to Kill" (1990, Action) Steven Seagal, Kelly LeBrock, Bill Sadler.					NFL Countdown	
2:00	Sports	So You Think You Can Dance		Newsroom	Women's Murder Club "Blind Dates and Bleeding Hearts"	Around the Services Around the Services	Boston Legal "Duck and Cover"	College Basketball Michigan at Kansas. (Live)	College Basketball IPFW at Michigan State. (Live)
2:30									
3:00	ESPNEWS	So You Think You Can Dance	(3:05) Movie "Bad Santa" (2003) Billy Bob Thornton, Tony Cox. Two criminals disguise themselves as St. Nick and an elf.	Wall Street Journal Report Our World With Newsroom	One Tree Hill "Choosing My Own Way of Life"	Around the Services Around the Services	Judging Amy "Beating the Bounds"		
3:30	ESPNEWS				CSI: NY "Green Piece"	Around the Services First Air Force Now	Austin City Limits	College Basketball North Carolina at Texas. (Live)	College Basketball Xavier at Butler. (Live)
4:00	College Basketball UCLA at Notre Dame. (Live)								
4:30									
5:00		Barney & Friends Oobi	(4:55) Movie "The Year Without a Santa Claus" (2006) John Goodman, Chris Kattan.	Glenn Beck	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	Battleground FNG Useful benefits.	Namaste Yoga Total Body Sculpt With Gilad		
5:30									
6:00	College Basketball Duke vs. Gonzaga. From Madison Square Garden in New York. (Live)	Sesame Street		Newsroom	Headline News	This Week in the Pentagon	Guy's Big Bite	College Football Live	College Basketball Western Kentucky at Louisville. (Live)
6:30			(4:40) Movie "You've Got Mail" (1998, Romance-Comedy) Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan, Parker Posey. Two bitter business rivals conduct an online love affair.	McLaughlin Group	Headline News	The Benning Report	Throwdown With Bobby Flay	College Football New Mexico Bowl -- Fresno State vs. New Mexico. From Albuquerque, N.M. (Live)	
7:00		McGee and Me VeggieTales		This Week in the Pentagon	House Call-Dr. Sanjay Gupta	Downrange News from Iraq and Afghanistan.	Time of Grace		
7:30				The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Entertainers		Top 3 Kerry Shook Ministries		SportsCenter
8:00	College Basketball Memphis at Massachusetts. (Live)	Postman Pat				The Grill Sergeants	More Than Conquerors		
8:30		Danger Rangers "Dog Days"		FOX Report	In Touch-Dr. Charles Stanley Creflo Dollar Straight talk.	Fit For Duty Downrange	History's Mysteries The National Security Agency.		NBA Basketball Portland Trail Blazers at Orlando Magic. From Amway Arena in Orlando, Fla. (Live)
9:00		The Magic School Bus The Electric Company	(8:50) Movie "Big Momma's House" (2000, Comedy) Martin Lawrence, Nia Long.	Washington Week in Review	Love Worth Finding	USARJ This Week	Cities of the Underworld "Katrina"	NFL Football Dallas Cowboys at New Orleans Saints. From the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans. (Live)	
9:30									
10:00	College Football St. Petersburg Bowl -- Central Florida vs. Rutgers. From St. Petersburg, Fla. (Live)	Codename: Kids Next Door		All Hands TV	Crossing the Goal	FNG Useful benefits.	Futureweapons Attack submarine; stealth bomber.		ESPNEWS
10:30		Sabrina's Secret Life	(4:45) Movie "Ocean's Eleven" (2001, Comedy-Drama) George Clooney, Matt Damon. A suave ex-con assembles a team to rob a casino vault.	Today's Air Force	Austin City Limits "John Prime; Amos Lee"	Fit For Duty Battleground			Strikeforce: Evolution Cung Le vs. Scott Smith; Matt Lindland vs. Ronaldo Souza. From San Jose, Calif. (Card subject to change). (Live)
11:00		Growing Pains		The Chris Matthews Show	MotorWeek	Recon Revisited	The Suze Orman Show		
11:30		The Cosby Show		Newsroom	At the Movies	Fit For Duty			
12:00		Full House "Tanner's Island"			Digging for the Truth "The Aztecs: Of Blood and Sacrifice"	Battleground	Rick Steves' Europe		
12:30		The Brady Bunch		Journal Editorial Report	Carrier "Full Circle" The USS Nimitz makes its final transit.	Today's Air Force	Quick Fix Meals		
13:00		Movie "Two Weeks Notice" (2002) Sandra Bullock, Hugh Grant. A millionaire confronts his feelings for his lawyer.		Fox News Watch	Surviving Disaster Survival methods and military techniques.	Recon Revisited	Iron Chef America Chefs compete.	SportsCenter	College Football Final
13:30	NBA Fastbreak	Movie "The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause" (2006, Comedy) Tim Allen.	(2:55) Movie "Lethal Weapon 4" (1998, Action) Mel Gibson. Detectives Riggs and Murtaugh battle Chinese mercenaries.	Larry King Live	Toughest Race on Earth: Iditarod "Nome or Bust"	The American Veteran	Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles		Action Sports From Breckenridge, Colo. (Taped)
14:00	McLaughlin Group			Geraldo at Large	Survivor: Samoa	Fit For Duty Battleground	Heroes Peter takes on a dark, dangerous ability.	SportsCenter	NFL Total Access
14:30	ESPNEWS	Movie "Hardball" (2001, Drama) Keanu Reeves, Diane Lane. A gambler coaches a youth baseball team to work off a debt.		Newsroom	The Chris Matthews Show	This Week in the Pentagon	King of the Hill	College Football New Mexico Bowl -- Fresno State vs. New Mexico. From Albuquerque, N.M.	Sports
15:00	Washington Week in Review	Elmo's Christmas Countdown			ESPNEWS	USARJ This Week	The National Parks: America's Best Idea		
15:30	House Call-Dr. Sanjay Gupta	Movie "Christmas in Canaan" (2009, Drama) Billy Ray Cyrus, Zak Ludwig, Jaishon Fisher.	Movie "Four Christmases" (2008, Romance-Comedy) Vince Vaughn, Reese Witherspoon.	Glenn Beck	20/20	Recon FNG Useful benefits.	Christmas at the White House: An Oprah Primetime Special		College Football NCAA Division III, Final: Mount Union vs. Wisconsin-Whitewater. From Salem, Va. (Same-day Tape)
16:00	Entertainers			Newsroom	In Plain Sight "Don't Cry for Me, Albuquerque"	Today's Air Force	Criminal Minds "Cold Comfort"	SportsCenter	
16:30					Gossip Girl "Chuck in Real Life" Vanessa blackmails Blair.	Fit For Duty	Burn Notice "Question & Answer"		
17:00	In Touch-Dr. Charles Stanley	SpongeBob SquarePants		FOX and Friends Sunday	Headline News	Battleground	Seinfeld "The Barber"	NFL Football Dallas Cowboys at New Orleans Saints. From the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.	NHL Hockey New York Rangers at Philadelphia Flyers. From the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia. (Same-day Tape)
17:30	Creflo Dollar Straight talk.	The Fairly OddParents			Saturday Night Live	This Week in the Pentagon			
18:00	Love Worth Finding					The Grill Sergeants	Friends		
18:30	Crossing the Goal					Recon Revisited	30 Days A Christian agrees to live with a Muslim family.		
19:00	Austin City Limits "John Prime; Amos Lee"	Movie "Christmas in Canaan" (2009, Drama) Billy Ray Cyrus, Zak Ludwig, Jaishon Fisher.				Today's Air Force			
19:30						Fit For Duty			
20:00	MotorWeek					Battleground			
20:30	At the Movies					Recon Revisited			
21:00	Digging for the Truth "The Aztecs: Of Blood and Sacrifice"	Greek "Formally Yours" The sisters test Max.				This Week in the Pentagon			
21:30						The Grill Sergeants			
22:00	Carrier "Full Circle" The USS Nimitz makes its final transit.	Touched by an Angel "Millennium"				Around the Services			
22:30						Around the Services			
23:00	Surviving Disaster Survival methods and military techniques.	7th Heaven "Regret to Inform"		CBS News Sunday Morning					
23:30			(10:55) Movie "Bruce Almighty" (2003, Comedy) Jim Carrey.						

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2009

00:00	Toughest Race on Earth: Iditarod "Nome or Bust"	Movie "Christmas in Canaan" (2009, Drama) Billy Ray Cyrus, Zak Ludwig, Jaishon Fisher.	(10:55) Movie "Bruce Almighty" (2003, Comedy) Jim Carrey.	CBS News Sunday Morning	Comics Unleashed	Around the Services	Without a Trace "911"	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Chicago Bulls. From the United Center in Chicago. (Taped)
00:30									
1:00	Survivor: Samoa		(4:40) Movie "The Hurricane" (1999, Drama) Denzel Washington, Vicellous Reon Shannon. A boxer is long imprisoned for murders he didn't commit.	Face the Nation	Two and a Half Men	Around the Services	24 "Day 7: 8:00AM - 9:00AM/Day 7: 9:00AM - 10:00AM"	NFL Countdown	
1:30				This Week With George Stephanopoulos	NCIS "Internal Affairs"	Fit For Duty			
2:00	Sports	Greek "Formally Yours" The sisters test Max.		Meet the Press	Life "A Civil War"	The Benning Report The Grill Sergeants	Dexter "Circle of Friends" Rita's ex-husband returns.		Sports
2:30									
3:00		Touched by an Angel "Millennium"	(3:05) Movie "Four Christmases" (2008) Vince Vaughn. A couple must somehow fit in four holiday visits with family.	America's News HQ	20/20	Freestyle Iraq VA News	NUMB3RS "End of Watch"	NFL Football Teams TBA.	NFL Football
3:30									
4:00		7th Heaven "Regret to Inform"		Amanpour.	In Plain Sight "Don't Cry for Me, Albuquerque"	Balad and Beyond	Seinfeld "The Barber"		
4:30						FNG Useful benefits.	Friends		
5:00		Teletubbies "Christmas Tree"	(4:50) Movie "Love Actually" (2003) Hugh Grant, Colin Firth.	Your Money	Gossip Girl "Chuck in Real Life" Vanessa blackmails Blair.	Battleground	Namaste Yoga		
5:30		Rolie Polie Olie				Today's Air Force	Total Body Sculpt With Gilad		

News

Sports

Weather

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

SCOREBOARD

Pacific scoreboard for the April 8 edition

Enter city or zip code

Save Location | Default Location | [C] [F]

Military News

Sports

Weather

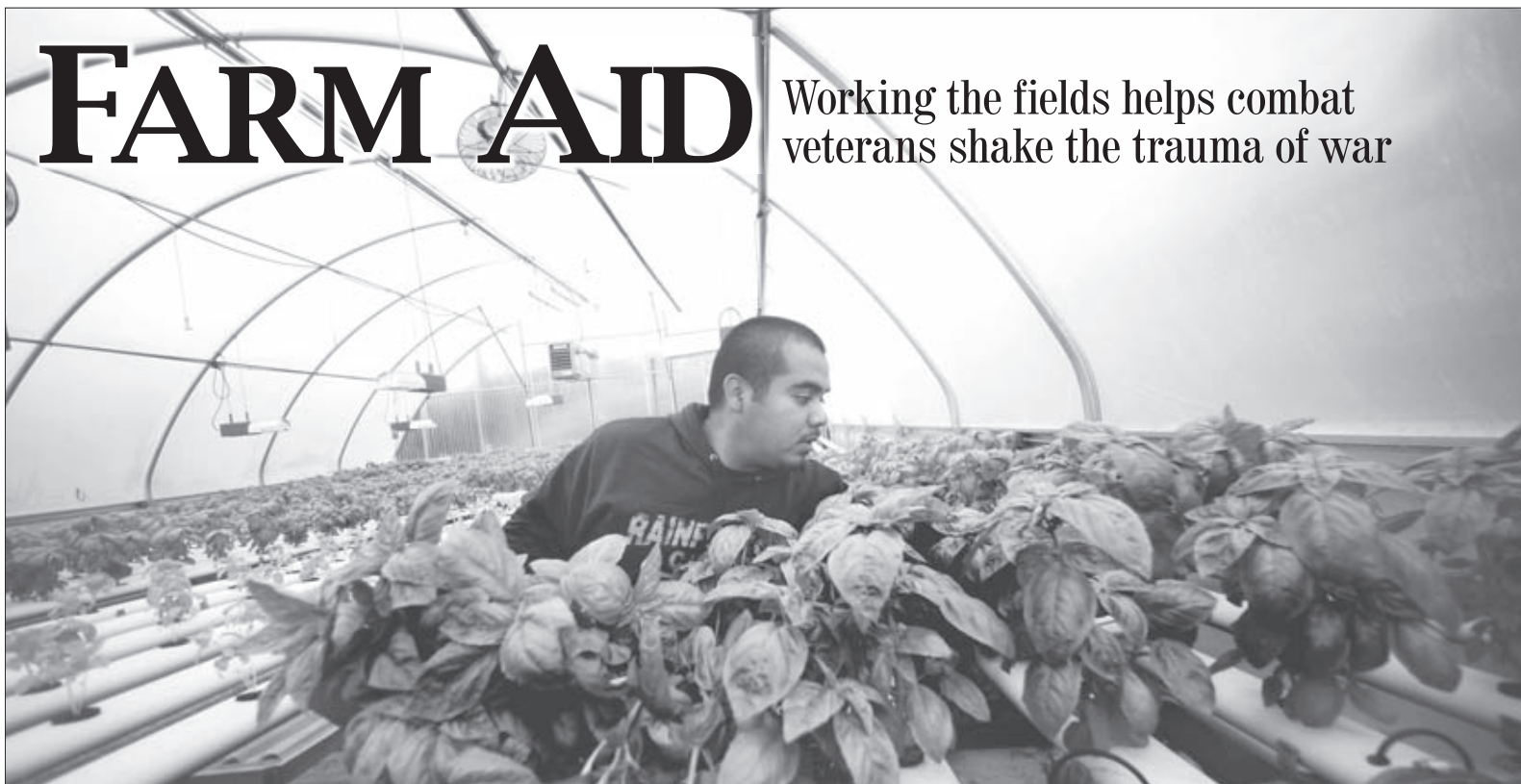
STARS AND STRIPES

News you can use
online 24/7
at Stripes.com

YOUR MONEY

FARM AID

Working the fields helps combat veterans shake the trauma of war



PHOTOS BY LENNY IGNEZI/AP

Carlos Rivera, 25, checks on basil plants at the Archi's Acres farm where he and other veterans work in Valley Center, Calif. Rivera returned from Iraq in 2007 after serving four years as a Marine.

By JACOB ADELMAN / The Associated Press

When Carlos Rivera returned from fighting in Iraq and found work as an electrician, he felt co-workers who knew about his military experience were gawking at him. He went home angry each day.

That's not a problem at his current job working alongside other combat veterans picking avocados, mixing organic fertilizers and gathering basil amid northern San Diego County's undulating ochre hills.

"I'm outdoors, not stuck inside somewhere feeling suffocated," said Rivera, 25, who returned from Iraq in 2007 after four years as a Marine. "There's always someone to talk to, someone there to understand."

Rivera works at Archi's Acres, a 3-acre high-tech organic farm owned by Colin Archipley, who served three tours in Iraq and is trying to help other combat vets shake the trauma of war by turning swords to plowshares.

Working the earth has long been recognized as good therapy for war veterans. About 20 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs centers have gardening programs, said Anthony Campinell, the VA's national director for work therapy programs. He said Archi's Acres is the only fully commercial enterprise of which he was aware.

Veterans have grown fruits, vegetables and flowers on a 12-acre parcel at the VA hospital in west Los Angeles since 1986. They sold their produce at farmers markets until April, when administrators had them take a break while they work out a deal for a nonprofit group to take over the commercial parts of that program.

Patients at the Veteran Affairs Medical Center near Newark, N.J., meanwhile, work in a 2-year-old garden harvesting corn, rhubarb and collard greens, some of which are served at the hospital's cafe.

"How much better can one feel about themselves than if you can make a meal out of things that you grew?" said UCLA psychiatry professor C. Scott

Saunders, who specializes in treating post-traumatic stress disorder among combat veterans.

Archipley, 28, whose unit took part in the initial invasion of Iraq and the later decisive battles in Fal-lujah and Haditha, returned from battle in 2006 too agitated to pursue plans to sell houses.

Instead, he decided to try his hand at farming, despite having no background in agriculture. He and his wife Karen started with the 200 avocado trees left on the property they bought while he was still a Marine sergeant.

Realizing the trees were not enough to sustain a business, the Archipleys added herbs and leafy greens grown using hydroponics, a method of cultivating plants without soil that requires less water and land than traditional farming.

The balmy air in Archipley's sunlit greenhouse is thick with the aroma of basil, bunches of which poke through holes in long plastic tubes arranged in vertical rows. Thin streams of water enriched with a potent "compost tea" run silently along the bottoms of the tubes.

Wrinkled leaves of chard and deep-green lettuces sprout outside the greenhouse.

Archipley said he knew other vets would be solid employees and they would benefit from the distraction provided by steady, regimented labor, just as he had.

"When our hands stop working and our minds start running, that's when bad things start to happen. So we keep the work load heavy. We stay busy," he said. "For me, if I slow down, if I stop doing what I'm focussed on, that's when I can get myself in trouble."

SEE FARMERS ON PAGE 27

"How much better can one feel about themselves than if you can make a meal out of things that you grew?"

C. Scott Saunders
UCLA psychiatry professor



Colin Archipley, right, walks with his wife, Karen, through a tree covered entrance to his farm in Valley Center. Archipley, who served three tours in Iraq, is trying to help other combat vets shake the trauma of war by turning swords to plowshares.

YOUR MONEY

Plan how to use inheritance before you spend any of it

Dear Liz: My husband and I recently inherited \$100,000. We are trying to figure out how best to use the money and are fielding different opinions from people trying to help.

One person recommended we invest in a certain stock, and another advocates certificates of deposit. Other people say to buy property because prices will never be this low again, so we're thinking about buying a duplex to rent out.

Unfortunately, we're self-employed and business has been slow for both of us, so we will need to keep some liquid to live on. How can we invest the rest wisely?

Answer: For now, leave all the money in a safe, accessible account such as an FDIC-insured bank account. Don't spend any of the money until you have a plan for all of it.

Think long and hard before you use the money for living expenses. If your businesses aren't providing enough income, maybe it's time to look for other employment.

Ideally, you'd use this wealth that someone else created to enhance your own net worth. That means using it to pay off debt or to buy assets that can appreciate over time.

Putting it all in a single stock, though, is almost certainly too

risky unless you already have a massive investment portfolio. In general, you never want to have more than 10 percent of your investments in a single stock. A limit of 5 percent is even more prudent.

A better choice might be to invest in well-diversified mutual funds or exchange-traded funds.

Long-term real estate ownership can enhance your wealth, but be sure to thoroughly research what's involved in being a landlord before you buy rental property. There are probably landlord associations in your area you could join that can provide educational resources and networking opportunities with more experienced investors.

Dear Liz: My wife and I plan to buy a condo next year, so we want to keep our credit scores as high as possible. One of her credit cards, an airline mileage card, has doubled its annual fee and she'd like to close the account but we're worried about the damage to her credit scores. She has excellent credit but not a terribly long credit history.

Can she switch cards while maintaining a continuous credit history with this provider? Or would this switch require her to cancel the existing account and start a new line of credit with this provider?

Answer: Most people with good credit worry too much about the effect of closing a single account. You're probably right to worry, though, because her credit his-

tory is short and you'll be in the market for a mortgage soon.

She should call her issuer and ask if her history with this card could be transferred to the new account. If not, it might be worth hanging on to the card until you've gotten the mortgage you want.

Dear Liz: You once said in a column that employers sometimes check your credit report but that they had to let you know if that was a factor in denying you a job. I think employers routinely check credit reports and don't say anything to you about it.

I have two masters' degrees but am having trouble finding employment, and I think it's due to my credit, which is in the toilet at the moment. I don't see my situation getting any better unless I can get a job commensurate with my education and skills so I can start to repair things. Any ideas?

Answer: You're assuming employers are a lot more interested in you than they probably are.

It's possible an employer would break the law by pulling your credit without your written consent.

But with unemployment as high as it is — there are currently about six unemployed workers for each job opening, according to the U.S. Department of Labor — it's far more likely that your applications are among the many that employers are simply ignoring.

Liz Pulliam Weston is the author of the book "Your Credit Score: Your Money and What's at Stake." Questions for possible inclusion in her column may be sent to 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd., No. 238, Studio City, CA 91604, or via the "Contact Liz" form at www.askliz-weston.com. Distributed by No More Red Inc.

Money Talk



Liz Pulliam Weston



PHOTOS BY LENNY IGNEZI/AP

Colin Archipley inspects basil plants in a greenhouse before sending it out for delivery at his organic farm in Valley Center, Calif.

Farmers: Owner believes vets comforted by his farm's rural setting

FARMERS, FROM PAGE 26

Archipley said he thinks his workers are soothed by the farm's rural atmosphere, since the noise and pace of city life might remind them of the urban battle zones where many fought.

Jeffery Scanlon, who places veterans at Archi's Acres as manager of the VA's work therapy programs in San Diego, said working with plants appears to help war-rattled vets regain their self-confidence.

"The plants aren't talking back to them," he said. "You feel more in touch with something that doesn't give you what we would consider negative feedback."

Archipley pays a fee to the VA to cover salaries and placement program expenses. The VA takes care of the workers' insurance, health care and other costs.

Archipley's staff has grown from two to eight since he began hiring the veterans, and he recently bought an adjacent three-acre parcel where he plans more greenhouses and outdoor growing facilities.

The farm's growth is being sustained by demand for its prod-

ucts, which are sold at area Whole Foods outlets, other grocery stores and farmers' markets.

Scanlon said he has spoken with VA administrators about replicating the collaboration with the farm in other parts of the country. The emphasis on greenhouse cultivation makes it a model for areas too cold for year-round field farming, he said.

Campinell said he's open to that idea, but his department would need to find other hydroponic farms that want to hire veterans, since the VA doesn't set up new businesses.

The veterans at Archipley's operation, meanwhile, appear grateful for the opportunity to put down their own roots in civilian life.

Rivera said talking with customers at farmers markets has helped him the most.

"I'm dealing with people and looking them in the eye and learning how to be happy around people," he said.

"The other jobs I had, I used to just go home and be angry," he continued. "Now I actually look forward to work."



Marine veteran Cory Pollard works on slide rails for greenhouse tables at the Archi's Acres organic farm in Valley Center.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Euro costs (Dec. 21)	\$1.4721
Dollar buys (Dec. 21)	€0.6793
British pound (Dec. 21)	\$1.66
Japanese yen (Dec. 21)	¥88.00
South Korean won (Dec. 21)	₩1,147.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6185
Canada (Dollar)	1.0641
China (Yuan)	6.8295
Denmark (Krone)	5.1867
Egypt (Pound)	5.4980
Euro	\$1.4348/0.6970
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7566
Hungary (Forint)	192.20
Israel (Shekel)	3.6124
Japan (Yen)	90.35
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2868
Norway (Krone)	5.8475
Philippines (Peso)	46.55
Poland (Zloty)	2.92
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7508
Singapore (Dollar)	1.4027
South Korea (Won)	1,175.40
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0422
Thailand (Baht)	33.22
Turkey (New Lira)	1.5196

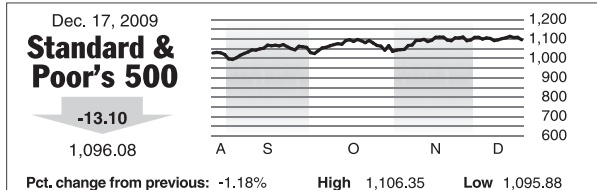
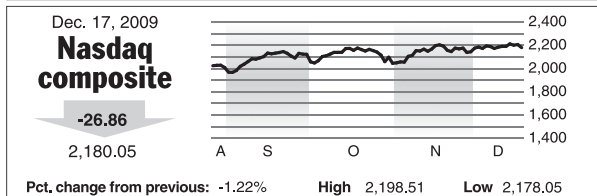
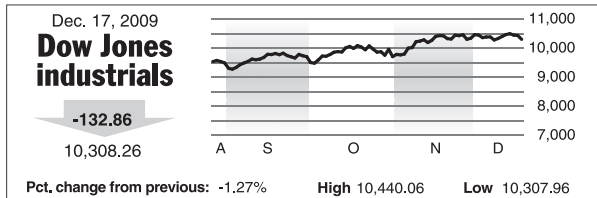
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
3-month bill	0.03
30-year bond	4.42

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

A DAY ON WALL STREET



SOURCE: SunGard

AP

STRIPES CLASSIFIED

Stripes FREE Classified

Selling your couch, your car or your Stephen King collection?

Sell it FREE in Stripes classified.

Up to 32 words FREE for 21 days!

Free Ad Guidelines:

- Free ads are available to DOD ID card holders only.
- All free ads must be mailed, faxed or e-mailed. You may renew or make changes to your ad by calling 229-3276.
- Free ads run for 21 days and on a space available basis only.
- Please spell out each word. No abbreviations.
- Item prices must be listed.
- Free ads are available for private parties only. For information on commercial or in-home business ads, please call 229-3276.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite or reject any ad.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Installation _____
Your ad _____

Submit coupon to: Stars and Stripes, Classified Ad Dept., Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002 Fax DSN 229-3214, CML 03-3423-8257, E-Mail classifieds@pstribes.osd.mil

Build Your Business for As Little As \$21 a week!

Stars and Stripes offers the most effective and affordable way to reach the military community overseas. Ad rates vary depending on the size of your ad and the frequency of insertion. Please contact us for details!

Reach us!

Phone us at:
03-6385-3276 (Commercial)
011-81-3-6385-3276 (Overseas)
229-3276 (Tokyo DSN)
645-7667 (Okinawa DSN)
721-7141 (Korea DSN)
721-7146 (Korea DSN)

Fax us at:
03-3423-8257 (Tokyo CML)
229-3214 (Tokyo DSN)
02-9222-7141 (Korea CML)
721-7141 (Korea DSN)
645-7667 (Okinawa DSN)

Mail us at:
Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002
7-23-17 Roppongi, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 106-0032 Japan

Email us at:
classifieds@pstribes.osd.mil

Deadline to place, cancel, or make any change to an ad is five(5) business days prior to publishing date. If the ad has a typographical error, Pacific Stars and Stripes' liability is to re-run the ad for one (1) additional day on the next available issue date. Any other problem with advertising must be filed in writing no later than ten (10) days after the first insertion of the ad. Ads cannot be run upside down or sideways.

All Classified Advertisements Are Non-refundable

Classified advertising is accepted from DoD personnel (private party ad Classified advertisements) and all organizations which provide a service of interest to the military community (business advertisements). All ads are assessed before acceptance according to the moral and ethical judgment of Pacific Stars and Stripes. Classified advertisements must be acceptable for our general military/family readership. Pacific Stars and Stripes has the right to return any and all ads considered inappropriate for publication.



Announcements 040

Take Control of Your Finances

- Reduce interest rates
- Stop late fees & collector calls
- Completely confidential
- Reduced fees for military

Free Debt Analysis **FAMILY CREDIT MANAGEMENT**
800-696-7169
815-484-1600
counselor@familycredit.org

Chat with a certified credit counselor online at www.familycredit.org/military

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. S&S suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. S&S is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Your Hometown Newspaper
STARS AND STRIPES
www.stripes.com

Autos for Sale 141

Hawaii - 2001 Mercedes Benz C240. Silver. Nice rims. Leather interior. Everything is electric. Sunroof. 6 CD disk changer. Automatic. Well kept. Wonderful car. Selling for \$8,700. Obo. Please reply urgently!!!!!! E-mail: Monique.sutton@amed.army.mil or Monique.sutton@amed.army.mil

Atsugi - 2006 JEEP LIBERTY for sale low price \$10,800. Only has 8,300 miles and is outstanding condition. JCI and Base inspection is good until Oct. 2011. Must sale retiring 11 Dec. Call Tim at 264-5571

Yokosuka - 2000 Toyota Mark 2 Turbo. 1JZ-GTE V7. 55hp. 19in Work Wheels. Coilover Suspension. HKS Intake. Exhaust. ORC Clutch. Torque LSD. Turned computer. Vertex Body Kit and Intercooler. Extras included. Excellent condition in and out. Tags good till mid 2011. \$12,500. 090-8008-2478 Email: mikiyprw@cox.net

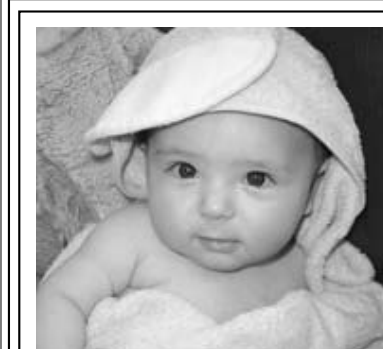
Autos for Sale 141

Yokosuka - 2000 Toyota Nadia. 4-door grey hatchback. 4-cyl automatic. 93000km. AM/FM/CD/TV/navigation system. power steering/locks/windows/ mirrors. JCI Apr 2011, reliable, good condition. \$2800. OBO. Ted. 243-7667 days, 090-6505-0046 evenings. satothaw1@yahoo.com

Yokosuka - '95 Nissan Skyline for sale. HIGHLY modified with GT-R everything except AWD. Upgrades include GT-R engine, tuned ECU, HKS coil overs, HKS turbos, sway bars, 600cc injectors, and MUCH more. VERY fast and has only 43K km. \$9500. Call 080-4191-1287 or email: psyhcmajr087@yahoo.com

Yokosuka - 99 Mercedes Benz CLK-320 Classic, Silver; Fully Loaded; Left Hand Drive; JCI and Base Inspection; Available Now. \$18,000.00 OBO equivalent. Call Old School at 080-5678-0467 or email: blismr@yahoo.com

Announcements 040



Welcoming Baby Rachel!
Create a memory for life!

Email classifieds@pstribes.osd.mil or call DSN 229-3276

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota - 1992 Eunoo Roadster (Mazda Miata). Red with black convertible top. 1.6L 4 cyl. Automatic. PW, AC, CD/MP3 Player with Aux-in. 97K Km. JCI good till Mar 2011 \$1500 OBO 267-6312

Yokota, Japan - '00 Mercedes-Benz C200 WG Mileage: 62,000km Body type: Station Wagon (W202) EG Description: 2.0L Fuel Type: Gas Transmission: 5 Speed AT Drive Train Type: RDW Exterior: Dark Blue Metallic Interior: Gray X Blue Others: 2-front and both side air bag, ABS, ESP, Electronic key w/immobilizer, 17inch AW, LED Turn Signal Mirror Include: Maintenance for First Inspection, Domestic Transportation, and Sales Tax included Asking 489,000 yen. Please email: Dennis.cookieslifestyle@gmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 1989 Toyota Hilux Surf 4x4 (4-door) Grey/Silver has minor dent's, blemishes in paint - it's an 89. Everything works passed JCI with flying colors. Found dim head lights (fixed), fog light out (fixed). Two years of fresh JCI until 1Dec11 asking \$3000 Please email: meangreenparts@yahoo.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1991 Chevrolet Silverado it pains me to sell this truck as I love it so much PCS difficulties forcing sale. This truck has a 106 plate, so JCI is every year. Turns heads everywhere I drive. \$5,500 w/ 20" wheels 78, XXX miles 3" cat-back exhaust w/ Flow master 10 series muffler Bell tech 5/7 static drop Shaved taillights Corvette ZR-1 taillights in FRP 20x9 Status Dynast wheels Brand new 255/45R20 Wally tires Trader Top fiberglass tonneau cover Set of 4 black 15x7 Daytona wheels with 255/65R15 Michelin tires JCI until Nov. 2010 Asking \$7000 OBO Please email: mv4slayer@aol.com or call Nick 080-3696-3998

Yokota, Japan - 1991 GTST Skyline Black with tons of mods. Major mods include tune adjustable suspension, TD-06 17C, Front mount intercooler, 5 speed with Agura super single clutch, K&A2 two way diff, Vertex body kit, and Tomei 256 Poncam cams. I'll even throw in a stock exhaust for free. JCI until Sept. 2010. Asking \$3800 Please email: vitamighy2@yahoo.com or call 94-9258-6930

Announcements 040

C'mon Get Happy!

Get your Happy Ad in Stripes today!
Want to hook up with an old friend?
Send your girlfriend a birthday greeting?
Or congratulate your friend on a recent promotion?
Whatever the occasion, book your Happy Ad today in Stars and Stripes!

- Check out the details:
1. Email your greeting and digital photo to classifieds@pstribes.osd.mil.
 2. Stars and Stripes reserves the right to edit or reject any Happy Ad.
 3. A one-time \$35 fee for each ad must be prepaid prior to publication. You may opt to use a credit card or you may visit the nearest Stars and Stripes' circulation office and pay by check.



Your Hometown Newspaper
STARS AND STRIPES
www.stripes.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Honda Civic Hatchback My wife and I is PCSing soon so this has to go. AT, A/C (needs recharging), PW, PL, power mirrors. I put an alpine stereo and Kenwood speakers in it last year. I also put new tires on it last year and got new JCI this year. The outside looks good except for a little bit of damage to the passenger side mirror. A passing car hit it when it was driving by, but it's not too bad. This car has been very reliable, great on gas, and has never given us a problem. Asking \$900. Please email: gsk_tcy@hotmail.com or call 090-6038-8465

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Toyota Corolla II. Excellent condition no problems since I bought it 3 years ago. A/C works great w/ CD player. Very dependable. Perfect car for off base narrow streets. Best car out there! JCI due Dec 2010. Must sell immediately. Asking \$900 I will post a picture soon. Please email: roel.maguindang@yokota.af.mil or call 323-3338-7568

Yokota, Japan - 2000 MR-S S-division Red, Convertible, CD&MD, DVD Navigation, 65400km. Good condition JCI until Dec 2009 Asking 60,000 yen Please email: wisdomteeth@yahoo.co.jp

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Subaru Legacy Wagon Dark green 1993 Subaru Wagon with 99,097km. Has two sunroofs, A/C & heat, CD, automatic windows/locks. JCI due in Feb 2010. Asking 600 OBO Contact Mike @ 214-261-6421 or email for additional pictures/info

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Honda Inspire (Accord) Awesome Car but have short notice assignment so must sell. 104K. Automatic, custom stereo, everything works-JCI until Sep 2011 Asking \$1,200.00 Please contact Randy Richert (763) 354-3566

Yokota, Japan - 1998 Toyota Hi Lux Surf (4Runner) Very Clean, silver on blue, 4cyl, 4X4, 48,000km, new tires, inspection Nov 2011. JCI Dec 2011, carry over JCI until 28 Jan 2011 asking \$3300 Contact Jennifer 646-957-9502 or 080-3514-3733 for more information

Announcements 040

Save Gas Shop Online!

Local Links & Free Ads Over 600 AF&F's Stores Autos to Vases Gases Merchant Rating System Monthly Photo Contest Online Military Loans www.gcosus.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 2000 Nissan Bassara. 7 passenger Van, Navi TV 2000 captain's chairs 1 and 2nd row with adjustable arm rests. Keyless entry with 2 remotes and 2 keys, CD/Navigator/TV, system. Drives like new still. 2nd owner. Oil changed every 3 months, never had one problem with van. With stock Nissan Alloy 16 inch rims. Body and interior in great shape. Strong engine. K&A24DE, Billet grill, great for long trips. Must Sell Soon. No major problems for JCI. SO Call Dave @ 080-5199-5299/042-553-5496 available Jan. 13TH

Yokota, Japan - 2000 Toyota Vitz Description Model Year: 2000 Mileage: 76,000km Body type: 4-door Hatchback 500 Plate Automatic. Transmission Exterior: Pink Interior: Gray Keyless Entry, New tires March 2011. Gas. Excellent gas mileage! Asking \$2500 Please email: skidgods@yahoo.com or call 646-957-9391

Yokota, Japan - 2004 Honda Vamos - Yellow Plate! Black, AM/FM, CD, automatic, 4 doors, 109,000 Km. Available immediately JCI until 28 Jan 2011 asking \$3300 Contact Jennifer 646-957-9502 or 080-3514-3733 for more information

Yokota, Japan - 2004 Toyota Vozx JCI until Sep 2011 81627 Km (about 50800 Miles) 3 Row seating for 7 and 5 Doors for ease of access AM/FM/CD/MD/HDD/Navigation Rearview Camera Tires just replaced in May I had a complete check at Toyota pet to ensure it is in good working order. JCI just performed in September. (Due Sep 2011) This is a GREAT van that I hate to sell. My loss is a gain for someone else. This is the perfect vehicle for a family that is in need of a reliable vehicle with lots of space. Similar vehicles are selling in the local area for over 1,300,000 yen. Asking \$9500 Please Jim 080-6758-9769

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 95 Purple Honda Inspire Need to sell b4 31 Dec. Currently on lemon lot. Call for test drive. JCI expires March 2011. Asking \$1600 OBO Please email: eboni.scott@us.af.mil or call 090-6316-7422

Yokota, Japan - '96 Toyota Curren JCI exp Jan 2012 \$2000 JCI exp. Jan 2012 Automatic Engine Start (works from 9th floor of tower) 2 Dr. Excellent Heater COLD A/C PW PS PL Too much to list! New Battery/Tires Runs excellent. Asking \$2000 Call for Test Drive 080-3019-5299/042-553-5496 available Jan. 13TH

Yokota, Japan - '97 Honda Step-wagon Mileage: 91,800km Body type: VAN EG Description: 2.0L Fuel Type: Gas Transmission: 4 Speed AT (Column Shift) Drive Train Type: 2WD Exterior: Metallic Lavender Interior: Gray Others: P, S, PW, For 7 passenger, Non-smoking/Clean car Maintenance for First Inspection, Domestic Transportation, Sales Tax and JCI included. Asking \$229,000 Please email: cookieslifestyle@gmail.com or call 090-7440-6346 Dennis

Yokota, Japan - 97 Toyota Estima - really good condition/ White. JCI not due till Jan 2011, four brand new tires and rims just added, nothing wrong with it, just had inspected. Has moon roof up front, and sun roof in back. JCI until Jan. 2011 Asking \$1650 Please call if interested 210-881-4404

Yokota, Japan - '98 Nissan Prairie 100K 4 doors with hatch back. Three row seating. This van runs great and has JCI until June 2011! The rear passenger doors are both sliding and windows are fully functional. CD player. Real clean JCI expires June 2011. Asking \$1700. Please email jbwalt@gmail.com or call 240-845-5317

Yokota, Japan - Mitsubishi FTO Nice car, but I need to purchase a van. JCI until Aug. 2011 asking \$1750 Please email: fairfrit@aol.com or call 090-9787-8770

Yokota, Japan - Must Sell ASAP! 1992 Toyota Lucida Leaving to Guam here on the 15th Dec and need to sell my car. Car are on the lemon lot. JCI is good until April 2011. Excellent condition no problems. Has CD player and is wired up for subs and amp. JCI until April 2011 Asking \$1000 Contact Ryan Trandell Work: 225-7302 Home: 407-373-1342

Yokota, Japan - Must Sell ASAP! 1996 Nissan L. Leaving to Guam here on the 15th Dec and need to sell my car. Car are on the lemon lot. JCI is good until July 2011 excellent condition, no problems. Has DVD player in Dash new door speakers and is wired up for subs and amp. JCI until July 2011 asking \$1000 Contact Ryan Trandell Work: 225-730 or Home 407-373-1342

John D. Panasiewicz
General Manager

H. Bryant Pierpont
Advertising Manager

Richard Chuckrey
Information Systems Manager

Terry M. Wegner
Accounting Manager

Darian L. Wilson
Marketing Manager

Jack Luersen
Production Manager

Charles D. Winans
Pacific Circulation Manager

Lt. Col. Autum C. Whalen
Commander

CIRCULATION OFFICES

circulation@pstribes.osd.mil

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
DSN: 229-3171 CML: (03) 6385-3171

JAPAN:
Yokota/Atsugi/Zama DSN: 225-4505/6/7
Yokohama/Yokosuka DSN: 243-4771
Misawa DSN: 226-3406
Sasebo DSN: 252-3890
Iwakuni DSN: 253-4770

TOKYO HEADQUARTERS:
DSN: 229-3174
CML: (03) 6385-3174

KOREA:
Yongsan DSN: 721-7140
Osan DSN: 784-4393
Taegu DSN: 768-7461
Pusan DSN: 763-3787
Kunsan DSN: 782-7431

OKINAWA:
DSN: 645-2010
CML: (098) 893-0292
FAX DSN: 645-7297
CML: (098) 892-0995

GUAM:
CML: (671) 632-1003

MARKETING:
marketing@pstribes.osd.mil
DSN: 229-3149; CML: (03) 6385-3149
DSN FAX: 229-3132

COMMERCIAL PRINTING:
DSN: 229-3104
CML: (03) 6385-3104

Your Hometown Newspaper
STARS AND STRIPES
www.stripes.com
Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002
7-23-17 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032 Japan

630

Tammy Lynn

Yokota, Japan - Used DVD's for

STRIPE CLASSIFIED



EDUCATION FOCUS

UMUC ACADEMIC ADVISORS

GUIDING YOU TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS.

Skilled and knowledgeable Academic Advisors are available to discuss degree plans and to help you select the courses you need to earn your degree efficiently. UMUC offers a number of programs leading to a certificate, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree.

To find your local UMUC Academic Advisor, visit www.asia.umuc.edu/advisor



University of Maryland University College

Copyright © 2009 University of Maryland University College

Twitter: umucasia

Facebook: University of Maryland University College Asia



News About You



Covering all the bases and the military issues that affect you.

Nowhere else but in...

STARS  STRIPES®

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	20	4	.833	—
Toronto	11	17	.393	—
New York	8	17	.320	12½
Philadelphia	6	19	.240	14½
New Jersey	2	24	.077	19

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	18	6	.750	—
Orlando	19	7	.731	—
Miami	13	11	.542	5
Charlotte	10	14	.417	8
Washington	7	16	.304	10½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	19	7	.731	—
Milwaukee	11	12	.478	6½
Detroit	11	14	.440	7½
Indiana	9	14	.391	8½
Chicago	9	15	.375	9

Western Conference

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	19	7	.731	—
San Antonio	13	10	.565	4½
Houston	14	11	.560	4½
New Orleans	11	13	.458	7
Memphis	10	15	.400	8½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	19	7	.731	—
Utah	15	10	.600	3½
Portland	16	11	.593	3½
Oklahoma City	12	12	.500	6
Minnesota	4	22	.154	15

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	20	4	.833	—
Phoenix	17	9	.654	4
L.A. Clippers	11	13	.458	9
Sacramento	11	13	.458	9
Golden State	7	18	.280	13½

Wednesday's games

Cleveland 108, Philadelphia 101
 Atlanta 110, Memphis 97
 Orlando 118, Toronto 99
 Indiana 101, Charlotte 98
 Utah 108, New Jersey 92
 L.A. Clippers 120, Minnesota 95
 L.A. Lakers 107, Milwaukee 106, OT
 Dallas 100, Oklahoma City 86
 New Orleans 95, Detroit 87
 Denver 111, Houston 101
 San Antonio 103, Golden State 91
 Sacramento 112, Washington 109

Thursday's games

Chicago 98, New York 89
 Miami 104, Orlando 86
 Portland 105, Phoenix 102

Friday's games

New Jersey at Toronto
 Utah at Atlanta
 Philadelphia at Boston
 Milwaukee at Cleveland
 L.A. Clippers at New York
 Indiana at Memphis
 Detroit at Oklahoma City



DON RYAN/AP

Portland Trail Blazers guard Jerryd Bayless, right, is hugged by teammate Martell Webster during the second half Thursday. Bayless scored a career-high 29 points as the Blazers beat the Phoenix Suns 105-102.

Denver at New Orleans
 Sacramento at Minnesota
 Houston at Dallas
 Washington at Golden State

Saturday's games

Utah at Charlotte
 Portland at Orlando
 L.A. Clippers at Philadelphia
 L.A. Lakers at New Jersey
 Atlanta at Chicago
 Sacramento at Milwaukee
 Oklahoma City at Houston
 Indiana at San Antonio
 Washington at Phoenix

Thursday

Bulls 98, Knicks 89

NEW YORK — Jeffries 3-7 0-0 6, Harrington 5-18 4-6 18, Lee 5-14 3-3 13, Duhon 5-12 3-4 18, Chandler 6-13 0-0 13, Gallinari 6-17 0-1 18, Curry 0-2 1-2 1, Douglas 1-3 0-0 2, Totals 31-86 11-16 89.

CHICAGO — Deng 8-16 7-7 24, Miller 0-5 0-0 0, Noah 3-6 9-10 15, Rose 8-18 2-2 18, Salmons 7-14 5-5 20, Hinrich 3-8 2-3 9, Gibson 6-11 0-1 12, Totals 35-78 25-28 98.

New York 34 16 22 17-89
Chicago 23 25 21 29-98

Three-Point Goals—New York 16-47 (Gallinari 6-15, Duhon 5-10, Harrington 4-13, Chandler 1-6, Jeffries 0-1, Douglas 0-2), Chicago 3-9 (Deng 1-1, Hinrich 1-4, Salmons 1-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—New York 46 (Jeffries 9), Chicago 60 (Deng 13). Assists—New York 21 (Duhon 7), Chicago 21 (Rose 6). Total Fouls—New York 22, Chicago 12. Technicals—New York defensive three second 2, Miller, Chicago defensive three second 2. A—19,791 (20,917).

Heat 104, Magic 86

ORLANDO — Pietrus 5-6 0-0 12, Lewis 3-9 1-2 9, Howard 6-11 5-9 17, Williams 3-8 0-0 7, Carter 4-10 2-2 10, Barnes 0-8 0-0 0, Johnson 2-6 0-0 5, Redick 5-9 1-1 13, Anderson 1-2 0-0 3, Gortat 2-4 0-2 4, Bass 3-5 0-1 6, Totals 34-78 9-17 86.

MIAMI — Richardson 4-9 0-0 11, Beasley 8-15 6-8 22, O'Neal 4-7 0-0 8, Arroyo 2-5 0-0 5, Wade 10-17 4-8 25, Haslem 4-8 1-1 9, Anthony 3-5 0-0 6, Wright 5-9 0-0 11, Chalmers 2-6 2-2 7, Magloire 0-0 0-0 0, Cook 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 42-81 13-19 104.

Orlando 18 26 16 26-86
Miami 33 26 30 15-104

Three-Point Goals—Orlando 9-28 (Pietrus 2-2, Redick 2-4, Lewis 2-5, Anderson 1-2, Johnson 1-2, Williams 1-5, Barnes 0-4, Carter 0-4), Miami 7-14 (Richardson 3-7, Wade 1-1, Arroyo 1-1, Wright 1-1, Chalmers 1-2, Beasley 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Orlando 48 (Howard 14), Miami 49 (Wright, Beasley 8). Assists—Orlando 12 (Johnson 5), Miami 25 (Wade, Arroyo 7). Total Fouls—Orlando 19, Miami 17. Technicals—Orlando defensive three second. A—18,303 (19,600).

Trail Blazers 105, Suns 102

PHOENIX — Hill 9-17 2-5 20, Stoudemire 9-19 9-11 27, Frye 5-11 2-2 17, Nash 7-11 0-0 16, Dragic 3-7 2-2 9, Dudley 4-9 0-0 10, Amundson 0-2 1-2 1, Clark 0-2 0-0 0, Tucker 1-1 0-0 2, Totals 38-79 16-22 102.

PORTLAND — Webster 6-10 1-1 15, Aldridge 5-15 5-6 15, Przybilla 1-3 1-2 3, Miller 1-3 2-3 4, Roy 9-22 7-11 27, Blake 4-7 0-0 12, Cunningham 0-2 0-0 0, Bayless 9-15 9-12 29, Howard 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 35-78 25-35 105.

Phoenix 28 27 26 21-102
Portland 25 23 22 35-105
 Three-Point Goals—Phoenix 10-21 (Frye 5-8, Dudley 2-4, Nash 2-5, Dragic 1-3, Hill 0-1), Portland 10-20 (Blake 4-7, Bayless 2-3, Webster 2-5, Roy 2-5). Fouled Out—Dudley. Rebounds—Phoenix 47 (Stoudemire 11), Portland 53 (Przybilla 10). Assists—Phoenix 24 (Nash 13), Portland 19 (Miller 5). Total Fouls—Phoenix 28, Portland 22. Technicals—Phoenix defensive three second, Przybilla. A—20,559 (19,980).

NBA roundup

Bayless gives boost to banged-up Blazers

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — The injury-plagued Portland Trail Blazers received a boost from an unlikely source: third string point guard Jerryd Bayless.

Bayless had a career-high 29 points and hit three free throws in the final 9 seconds, and the Trail Blazers overcame a 15-point third-quarter deficit to beat the Phoenix Suns 105-102 on Thursday night.

Brandon Roy added 27 points and eight rebounds for the Blazers, who have won two in a row after dropping six of eight. LaMarcus Aldridge and Martell Webster each had 15 points and seven rebounds.

Bayless made two free throws with 8.9 seconds left to give Portland a 104-100 lead. Steve Nash drove to the hoop to cut the lead to two points. Bayless was fouled with 4.0 seconds left and a chance to seal the game but he made 1 of 2 fouls shots.

That gave the Suns a chance to tie it, but Nash's off-balance three-point attempt bounced off the rim as time expired.

The Blazers have been plagued by injuries since the start of the

season. It started with forward Nicolas Batum, who had to have shoulder surgery just prior to the opener. Then forward Travis Outlaw fractured his left foot in mid-November. Fellow guard Rudy Fernandez had a procedure on his back to alleviate leg pain and center Greg Oden broke his left kneecap during a game against Houston on Dec. 5. The former No. 1 draft pick spoke to reporters at the Blazers' practice facility earlier Thursday.

The Blazers were granted a hardship exemption by the NBA and earlier Thursday they signed 6-foot-9 forward Anthony Tolliver from the team's NBA Developmental League affiliate, the Idaho Stampede. Tolliver had averaged 20.7 points and 9.9 rebounds with the Stampede.

Heat 104, Magic 86: Dwyane Wade had 25 points and seven assists and Michael Beasley added 22 points as host Miami was in control throughout an easy victory over Eastern Conference champion Orlando.

Bulls 98, Knicks 89: Luol Deng scored 24 points, John Salmons added 20 and host Chicago rallied from 17 down for its third victory in 14 games.

IT'S YOU VS. YOU

MUSCLE FUEL TO ENHANCE
POWER AND SUPPORT RECOVERY.

NEW

PRO PERFORMANCE[®] ADVANCED
MUSCLE PERFORMANCE

THE ULTIMATE LINE OF PEAK PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS

The breakthrough formulations of Pro Performance[®] AMP are designed to increase stamina, power, endurance, energy and strength. Amplified Muscle Meal is a post-ride shake that's an excellent source of fiber and low in sugar. It contains 142% faster absorbing protein, 25 vitamins and minerals, and quality carbs, ideal for after a long ride.² Now, with Pro Performance[®] AMP by GNC, you can bridge the gap between the athlete you are and the athlete you can be. CLINICALLY TESTED. PROVEN RESULTS. ONLY AT GNC.

INVEST IN YOUR PERSONAL BEST.

GNC LiveWell

SHOP ON BASE OR POST.



¹Results based on use in conjunction with weight training. ²In a randomized, double-blind, cross-over study of 18 healthy male athletes, subjects experienced significantly higher maximum concentrations of total amino acids, branched chain amino acids and leucine one hour post-ingestion of the protein blend in Pro Performance[®] AMP Amplified Muscle Meal relative to amino acid concentrations measured post-ingestion of whey protein concentrate. Significant differences for the rate of release of BCAA and leucine absorption were also observed relative to the control group. These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease. Call 1.800.477.4462 or visit gnc.com for the store nearest you. ©2009 General Nutrition Corporation. May not be reproduced in the U.S. Ad: Arnold Photo Active.

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Saturday
AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.—NBA: Utah at Atlanta (dld).
AFN-Sports, 9:30 p.m.—NBA: Philadelphia at Boston (dld).

Sunday
AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—College basketball: Michigan at Kansas.
AFN-Xtra, 2 a.m.—College basketball: Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne at Michigan State.
AFN-Atlantic, 4 a.m.—College basketball: UCLA at Notre Dame.
AFN-Sports, 4 a.m.—College basketball: North Carolina at Texas.
AFN-Xtra, 4 a.m.—College basketball: Xavier, Ohio at Butler.
AFN-Atlantic, 6 a.m.—College basketball: Duke vs. Gonzaga at New York.
AFN-Xtra, 6 a.m.—College basketball: Western Kentucky at Louisville.
AFN-Sports, 6:30 a.m.—College football: New Mexico Bowl, Fresno State vs. Wyoming at Albuquerque, N.M.
AFN-Atlantic, 8 a.m.—College basketball: Memphis at Massachusetts.
AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.—NBA: Portland at Orlando.
AFN-Atlantic, 10 a.m.—College football: St. Petersburg Bowl, Central Florida vs. Rutgers at St. Petersburg, Fla.
AFN-Sports, 10 a.m.—NFL: Dallas at New Orleans.
AFN-Xtra, noon—Mixed martial arts: Strikeforce Evolution, Cung Le vs. Scott Smith at San Jose, Calif.
AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.—College football: New Mexico Bowl, Fresno State vs. Wyoming at Albuquerque, N.M. (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 5 p.m.—Women's college volleyball: NCAA tournament, championship match, Penn State vs. Texas (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 7 p.m.—College football: NCAA Division III playoffs, championship game, Mount Union (Ohio) vs. Wisconsin-Whitewater at Salem, Va. (dld).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—NFL: Dallas at New Orleans (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 10 p.m.—NHL: N.Y. Rangers at Philadelphia (dld).
AFN-Xtra, midnight—NBA: Atlanta at Chicago (dld).

Monday
AFN-Atlantic, 3 a.m.—NFL: San Francisco at Philadelphia.
AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—NFL: Miami at Tennessee.
AFN-Xtra, 3 a.m.—NFL: New England at Buffalo.
AFN-Atlantic, 6 a.m.—NFL: Cincinnati at San Diego.
AFN-Sports, 6 a.m.—NFL: Green Bay at Pittsburgh.
AFN-Xtra, 6 a.m.—NFL: Oakland at Denver.
AFN-Sports, 10:15 a.m.—NFL: Minnesota at Carolina.
AFN-Xtra, 10:10 a.m.—College football: New Orleans Bowl, Southern Mississippi vs. Middle Tennessee at New Orleans.
AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.—NFL: Chicago at Baltimore.
AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.—NBA: Portland at Miami (dld).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—NFL: Minnesota at Carolina (dld).
AFN-Xtra, midnight—NFL: Atlanta at N.Y. Jets.

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Boxing

Fight schedule
Dec. 29
At Osaka, Japan, Nobuhiro Ishida vs. Oney Valdez, 12, for Ishida's interim WBA light middleweight title.
Dec. 31
At Tokyo, Denkaosen Kaowichit vs. Takefumi Sakata, 12, for Kaowichit's WBA flyweight title.
Jan. 11
At Tokyo, Juan Carlos Salgado vs. Takashi Uchiyama, 12, for Salgado's WBA super featherweight title; Poonsawat Kratingdaenggym vs. Satoshi Hosono, 12, for Kratingdaenggym's WBA super bantamweight title.
Jan. 23
At Manila, Philippines, Brian Viloria vs. Carlos Tamará, 12, for Viloria's IBF junior flyweight title; Donnie Nietes vs. Ivan Meneses, 12, for Nietes' WBO strawweight title.
At New York, Steven Luevano vs. Juan Manuel Lopez, 12, for Luevano's WBO featherweight title; Yuriorkis Gamboa vs. Rogers Mtagwa, 12, for Gamboa's WBA featherweight title.
Jan. 30
At Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, Shane Mosley vs. Andre Berto, 12, welterweights.

Deals

Thursday's transactions
BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
MLB—Suspended Florida SS Travis Dawkins (New Orleans-PCL) for 50 games after a second positive test for a drug of abuse. Named Tim Maxey joint strength and conditioning coordinator.
American League
BOSTON RED SOX—Named David Friedman senior vice president and special counsel.
TAMPA BAY RAYS—Named Stan Boroski assistant pitching coach.
National League
CHICAGO CUBS—Named Marty Pevey catching coordinator.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with INF Doug Mientkiewicz, INF Angel Berroa, RHP Luis Ayala, RHP Francisco Felix, RHP Justin Miller, RHP Juan Perez, 1B John Lindsey, OF Prentice Redman and RHP Josh Towers on minor league contracts.
NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with RHP Ryota Igarashi on a two-year contract.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS—Called up F Anthony Tolliver from the NBA Development League.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
NFL—Fined New York Giants C Shaun O'Hara and Philadelphia DE Trent Cole

College basketball

Thursday's men's scores
EAST
Iona 75, Albany, N.Y. 62
Lehigh 66, Dartmouth 58
Mount Vernon Nazarene 90, Florida College 87
William Paterson 70, Lehman 52
SOUTH
Appalachian St. 113, Milligan 91
Belmont Abbey 85, Brevard 75
Campbellsville 103, Temple Baptist 41
Centre 68, Asbury 49
Davidson 90, College of N.J. 49
Elizabeth City St. 72, Barton 66
Florida St. 76, Auburn 72
James Madison 78, Gardner-Webb 57
LSU 63, Nicholls St. 60
N.C. State 79, Elon 76
Newberry 68, Southern Wesleyan 64
Troy 78, New Orleans 76
Union, Ky. 84, Kentucky Christian 59
MIDWEST
Augustana, S.D. 103, S. Dakota Tech 66
Cornerstone 67, Goshen 58
Evansville 75, Georgia Southern 58
Findlay 85, Hillsdale 64
Lake Superior St. 67, Ashland 64, OT
Northwood, Mich. 78, Michigan Tech 58
Olivet Nazarene 75, Chicago St. 68
Rose-Hulman 83, Earlham 66
SW Minnesota St. 82, Minn.-Morris 66
St. Cloud St. 99, Cardinal Stritch 73
Wayne, Mich. 65, N. Michigan 48
SOUTHWEST
Tulsa 92, Jackson St. 39
FAR WEST
BYU 77, Wagner 61
Denver 59, Fla. International 53
Fresno St. 68, UC Davis 57
Nevada 73, E. Washington 70
Oakland, Mich. 77, Seattle 68

AP Men's Top 25 schedule
Saturday's games
No. 1 Kansas vs. Michigan
No. 2 Texas vs. No. 10 North Carolina at Cowboys Stadium
No. 3 Kentucky vs. Austin Peay
No. 4 Purdue vs. Ball State at Consecro Fieldhouse
No. 5 Syracuse vs. St. Bonaventure
No. 6 West Virginia at Cleveland State
No. 7 Duke vs. No. 15 Gonzaga at Madison Square Garden
No. 8 Villanova vs. Fordham at the IZOD Center, East Rutherford, N.J.
No. 9 Tennessee at Southern Cal
No. 11 Georgetown vs. Old Dominion
No. 12 Michigan State vs. IPFW

AP spotlight

Dec. 20
1966 — The NBA grants a franchise to Seattle, expanding the league to 11 teams for the 1967-68 season.
1973 — Henri Richard of the Montreal Canadiens scores his 1,000th point, getting an assist in a 2-2 tie with the Buffalo Sabres.
1981 — Winnipeg's Doug Smail scores a goal 5 seconds into the game to tie an NHL record as the Jets beat the St. Louis Blues 5-4.
1983 — Montreal's Guy Lafleur scores his 500th goal as the Canadiens beat the New York Rangers 6-0.
1985 — In a 2-2 tie with the New York Rangers, Denis Potvin of the New York Islanders assists on Mike Bossy's goal for his 916th career point to break Bobby Orr's NHL record for points by a defenseman.

\$15,000 apiece for a scuffle at the end of a Dec. 13 game.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Placed FB Greg Jones on injured reserve. Activated DB Kennard Cox from the practice squad.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Announced the resignation of executive vice president of football operations Vinny Cerrato. Named Bruce Allen general manager.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
MONTREAL CANADIENS—Recalled D Yannick Weber from Hamilton (AHL). Released F Ryan Murphy.
COLLEGE
ARKANSAS STATE—Announced the resignation of womens soccer coach Derek Pittman, who has accepted an associate head coaching position at Gonzaga.
DANA—Named Jason Shumaker football coach.
FELICIAN—Named men's assistant basketball coach.
HILBERT—Named Richard Schunke lacrosse coach.
MANHATTAN—Named Ashley Hammond men's soccer coach.
MARSHALL—Named John Holliday football coach and signed him to a five-year contract.
MINNESOTA—Freshman F Royce White announced he's leaving the basketball team.
SAN JOSE STATE—Named Mike MacIntyre football coach.

No. 13 Florida vs. Richmond at BankAtlantic Center, Sunrise, Fla.
No. 16 Texas Tech at Wichita State
No. 17 Kansas State vs. Alabama at the Mitchell Center, Mobile, Ala.
No. 18 Ohio State vs. Delaware State
No. 19 New Mexico vs. Creighton
No. 20 Mississippi vs. Centenary
No. 21 Butler vs. Xavier
No. 23 Texas A&M vs. The Citadel
No. 24 Washington vs. Portland
No. 25 Cincinnati vs. Lipscomb
Sunday's games
No. 14 Connecticut vs. UCF at the XL Center, Hartford, Conn.
No. 22 Georgia Tech vs. Florida State

Thursday's women's scores
EAST
Princeton 66, Drexel 49
St. Francis, Pa. 94, Youngstown St. 58
William Paterson 74, Lehman 54
SOUTH
Appalachian St. 92, ETSU 87
Brevard 56, Belmont Abbey 51
Cent. Missouri 73, Nova Southeastern 57
Elon 74, Chattanooga 66
Limestone 80, North Greenville 56
Michigan Tech 72, Northwood, Mich. 64
North Florida 59, S. Carolina St. 55
S.C.-Aiken 63, Lenoir-Rhyne 51
SE Louisiana 100, Spring Hill 55
Savannah St. 51, Jacksonville St. 37
South Carolina 62, Wake Forest 52
Southern U. 56, Nicholls St. 51
Stetson 69, S.C.-Upstate 61
Tulane 76, South Florida 72
MIDWEST
Akron 62, Chicago St. 55
Findlay 77, Hillsdale 53
Lake Superior St. 62, Ashland 59
N. Illinois 75, Loyola of Chicago 65, OT
N. Michigan 67, Wayne, Mich. 57
Northwestern 67, Arkansas 55
Rockford 58, Marantha Baptist 49
SW Minnesota St. 85, Minn.-Morris 57
Saint Louis 68, Oakland, Mich. 62
UNC Wilmington 58, Ohio 51
Urbana 76, Cedarville 61
Wis. Lutheran 76, Milwaukee Engineering 57
SOUTHWEST
Oklahoma St. 69, UC Riverside 46
FAR WEST
Mary 73, Montana St.-Billings 64
Minot St. 68, Montana Western 67
N. Colorado 75, Bradley 58

1985 — North Carolina sets an NCAA record with 18 blocked shots in an 87-55 rout of Stanford.
1998 — Green Bay's Brett Favre becomes the first NFL player to throw for more than 30 touchdowns in five seasons. Favre connects three times with Antonio Freeman in the first half of a 30-21 win over Tennessee to break a tie with Dan Marino.
2003 — St. John's provides a perfect ending for coach John Gagliardi's record-breaking season, snapping Mount Union's NCAA-record 58-game winning streak with a 24-6 victory in the Division III championship game.
2005 — Kobe Bryant scores a career-high 62 points in just three quarters as Los Angeles downs Dallas 112-90. Bryant scores a franchise-record 30 points in the third quarter and sits out the fourth.

College football

Bowl schedule
Saturday, Dec. 19
New Mexico Bowl
At Albuquerque
Wyoming (6-6) vs. Georgia State (8-4)
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Bowl
Rutgers (8-4) vs. UCF (8-4)
Sunday, Dec. 20
New Orleans Bowl
Southern Miss. (7-5) vs. Middle Tennessee (9-3)
Tuesday, Dec. 22
Las Vegas Bowl
BYU (10-2) vs. Oregon State (8-4)
Wednesday, Dec. 23
Poinsettia Bowl
At San Diego
Utah (9-3) vs. California (8-4)
Thursday, Dec. 24
Hawaii Bowl
At Honolulu
SMU (7-5) vs. Nevada (8-4)
Saturday, Dec. 26
Little Caesars Pizza Bowl
At Detroit
Ohio (9-4) vs. Marshall (6-6)
At Charlotte, N.C.
North Carolina (8-4) vs. Pittsburgh (9-3)
Emerald Bowl
At San Francisco
Southern Cal (8-4) vs. Boston College (8-4)
Sunday, Dec. 27
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Clemson (8-5) vs. Kentucky (7-5)
Monday, Dec. 28
Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Texas A&M (6-6) vs. Georgia (7-5)
Tuesday, Dec. 29
EagleBank Bowl
At Washington
Temple (9-3) vs. UCLA (6-6)
Champs Sports Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Miami (9-3) vs. Wisconsin (9-3)
Wednesday, Dec. 30
Humanitarian Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
Bowling Green (7-5) vs. Idaho (7-5)
Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Nebraska (9-4) vs. Arizona (8-4)
Thursday, Dec. 31
Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Stanford (8-4) vs. Oklahoma (7-5)
Armed Forces Bowl
At Fort Worth, Texas
Air Force (7-5) vs. Houston (10-3)
Tex Bowl
At Houston
Missouri (8-4) vs. Navy (9-4)
Insight Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Minnesota (6-6) vs. Iowa State (6-6)
Chick-fil-A Bowl
At Atlanta
Virginia Tech (9-3) vs. Tennessee (7-5)
Friday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Northwestern (8-4) vs. Auburn (7-5)
Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Penn State (10-2) vs. LSU (9-3)
Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Florida State (6-6) vs. West Virginia (9-3)
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Ohio State (10-2) vs. Oregon (10-2)
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Florida (12-1) vs. Cincinnati (12-0)
Saturday, Jan. 2
International Bowl
At Toronto
South Florida (7-5) vs. Northern Illinois (7-5)
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
Oklahoma State (9-3) vs. Mississippi (8-4)
PapaJohns.com Bowl
At Birmingham, Ala.
Connecticut (7-5) vs. South Carolina (7-5)
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
East Carolina (9-4) vs. Arkansas (7-5)
Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Michigan State (6-6) vs. Texas Tech (8-4)
Monday, Jan. 4
Fiesta Bowl
At Glendale, Ariz.
Boise State (13-0) vs. TCU (12-0)
Tuesday, Jan. 5
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Iowa (10-2) vs. Georgia Tech (11-2)
Wednesday, Jan. 6
GMAC Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
Central Michigan (11-2) vs. Troy (9-3)
Thursday, Jan. 7
BCS National Championship
At Pasadena, Calif.
Alabama (13-0) vs. Texas (13-0)
Saturday, Jan. 23
East-West Shrine Classic
At Orlando, Fla.
East vs. West
Saturday, Jan. 30
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South
Saturday, Feb. 6
Texas vs. The Nation All-Star Challenge
At El Paso, Texas
Texas vs. Nation

NCAA FCS playoffs
First Round
Saturday, Nov. 28
Appalachian State 20, South Carolina State 13
Villaanova 38, Holy Cross 28
Richmond 16, Elon 13
William & Mary 38, Weber State 0
Southern Illinois 48, Eastern Illinois 7
Montana 61, South Dakota State 48
New Hampshire 49, McNeese State 13
Stephen F. Austin 44, Eastern Washington 33
Quarterfinals
Saturday, Dec. 5
William & Mary 24, Southern Illinois 3
Montana 51, Stephen F. Austin 0
Villanova 46, New Hampshire 7
Appalachian State 35, Richmond 31
Seminals
Friday, Dec. 11
Villanova 14, William & Mary 13
Saturday, Dec. 12
Montana 24, Appalachian State 17
Championship
Friday, Dec. 18
At Finley Stadium/Davenport Field
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Villanova (13-1) vs. Montana (14-0), 8 p.m.

NCAA Division II playoffs
First Round
Saturday, Nov. 21
Mount Union 55, Washington & Jefferson 0
Montclair State 38, Maine Maritime 22
Albright 35, Alfred 25
Delaware Valley 66, Susquehanna 7
Wesley 55, North Carolina Wesleyan 23
Johns Hopkins 23, Hampden-Sydney 7
Thomas More 49, DePauw 39
Trine 51, Case Western Reserve 38
Wittenberg 42, Mount St. Joseph 14
Illinois Wesleyan 41, Wabash 35, 2OT
Mississippi College 56, Huntingdon 35
Wisconsin-Whitewater 70, Lakeland 7
Coe 34, St. John's, Minn. 27
St. Thomas, Minn. 43, Monmouth, Ill. 21
Mary Hardin-Baylor 42, Central, Iowa 40
Linfield 38, Cal Lutheran 17
Second Round
Saturday, Nov. 28
Mount Union 62, Montclair State 14
Wesley 43, Mississippi College 9
Johns Hopkins 31, Thomas More 29
Wittenberg 34, Trine 17
Albright 27, Delaware Valley 3
Wisconsin-Whitewater 45, Illinois Wesleyan 7
St. Thomas, Minn. 34, Coe 7
Linfield 53, Mary Hardin-Baylor 21
Quarterfinals
Saturday, Dec. 5
Mount Union 55, Albright 3
Wesley 12, Johns Hopkins 0
Wisconsin-Whitewater 31, Wittenberg 13
Linfield 31, St. Thomas, Minn. 20
Seminals
Saturday, Dec. 12
Mount Union 24, Wesley 7
Wisconsin-Whitewater 27, Linfield 17
Championship
Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl
Saturday, Dec. 19
At Salem Stadium
Salem, Va.
Mount Union (14-0) vs. Wisconsin-Whitewater (14-0)

NAIA playoffs
First Round
Saturday, Nov. 21
Lambuth 38, U. of the Cumberlands 7
Morningside 24, Missouri Valley 6
MidAmerica Nazarene 40, McPherson 24
Sioux Falls 63, Minot State 21
Carroll, Mont. 59, Dickinson State 7
Saint Xavier 56, McKendree 28
Lindenwood 42, Langston 14
Ottawa, Kan. 40, Hastings 34
Quarterfinals
Saturday, Nov. 28
Saint Xavier 52, Lambuth 10
Sioux Falls 49, Morningside 21
Carroll, Mont. 34, MidAmerica Nazarene 13
Lindenwood 64, Ottawa, Kan. 26
Seminals
Saturday, Dec. 5
Sioux Falls 48, Saint Xavier 6
Lindenwood 42, Carroll, Mont. 35
Championship
Saturday, Dec. 19
At Barron Stadium
Rome, Ga.
Sioux Falls (14-0) vs. Lindenwood (13-0)

Local scoreboard

Interservice basketball

Osan Pacificwide Holiday Tournament
At Main Fitness & Sports Center
Osan Air Base, South Korea
Men's double-elimination playoffs

Wednesday's games
Game 1—Camp Humphreys, South Korea, 78, 35th Air Defense Artillery, Osan Air Base, South Korea, 76

Game 2—Suwon Air Base, South Korea, 73, Misawa Air Base, Japan, 61

Game 3—Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, 87, Yokota Air Base, Japan, 45

Game 4—Osan Air Base, South Korea, 79, Seoul International Basketball League 67

Game 5—Yongsan Garrison, South Korea, 88, Camp Humphreys 50

Game 6—Kunsan Air Base, South Korea, 90, Suwon Air Base 48

Game 7—Misawa Air Base 84, Yokota Air Base 82; Yokota Air Base eliminated

Game 8—Seoul International Basketball League 90, 35th Air Defense Artillery 79, OT; 35th Air Defense Artillery eliminated

Thursday's games
Game 9—Camp Humphreys 78, Misawa Air Base 74; Misawa Air Base eliminated

Game 10—Seoul International Basketball League 64, Suwon Air Base 61; Suwon Air Base eliminated

Game 11—Yongsan Garrison 87, Andersen Air Force Base 73

Game 12—Kunsan Air Base 77, Osan Air Base 75

Game 13—Osan Air Base 81, Camp Humphreys 63; Camp Humphreys eliminated

Game 14—Andersen Air Force Base 85, Seoul International Basketball League 60; Seoul International Basketball League eliminated

Game 15—Kunsan Air Base 82, Yongsan Garrison 75

Game 16—Andersen Air Force Base 80, Osan Air Base 73; Osan Air Base eliminated

Friday's games
Game 17—Andersen Air Force Base 78, Yongsan Garrison 61

Game 18—Andersen Air Force Base 65, Kunsan Air Base 62

Game 19—Kunsan Air Base 76, Andersen Air Force Base 74; Andersen Air Force Base eliminated

Awards
MVP—Nicholas Welch, Andersen Air Force Base

All-Tournament team—Larry Boyd, Kunsan Air Base; Nicholas Welch, Julian Phillips, Andersen Air Force Base; Bethea McKinley, Yongsan Garrison; Adam Hanley, Seoul International Basketball League; Doctavious French, Misawa Air Base; Prentice Dukes, Suwon Air Base; Rodney Martin, Osan Air Base; Anthony Showers, Yokota Air Base; Jonathan Heidelberg, Camp Humphreys

Andersen Air Force Base 78, Yongsan Garrison 61

Halftime—Andersen Air Force Base 35, Yongsan Garrison 32. **Scoring**—Andersen Air Force Base, Nicholas Welch 32, Julian Phillips 15, Sasha Williams 11; Yongsan Garrison, Chavis Rose 25, Peter Van Dine 15, Shawn Munn 10.

Andersen Air Force Base 65, Kunsan Air Base 62

Halftime—Andersen Air Force Base 28, Kunsan Air Base 25. **Scoring**—Andersen Air Force Base, Julian Phillips 18, Phillip Coleman 14, Nicholas Welch 13; Kunsan Air Base, Larry Boyd 13. **Total fouls**—Andersen Air Force Base 12, Kunsan Air Base 24. **Fouled out**—Andersen Air Force Base, Frederick Jones; Kunsan Air Base, Adrian Johnson.

Kunsan Air Base 76, Andersen Air Force Base 74

Halftime—Andersen Air Force Base 42, Kunsan Air Base 37. **Scoring**—Kunsan Air Base, Larry Boyd 17 (14 second half), Kivan Smart 16 (first half), James Watts 13; Andersen Air Force Base, Nicholas Welch 30, Maurice Wong 18 (14 first half), Phillip Coleman 13. **Total fouls**—Kunsan Air Base 13, Andersen Air Force Base 11.

Women's double-elimination playoffs

Wednesday's games
Game 1—Osan Air Base, South Korea, 73, Yongsan Garrison, South Korea, 26

Game 2—Camp Humphreys, South Korea, 63, Misawa Air Base, Japan, 51

Game 3—Yongsan Garrison 59, Misawa Air Base 32; Misawa Air Base eliminated

Thursday's games
Game 4—Osan Air Base 54, Camp Humphreys 40

Game 5—Yongsan Garrison 48, Camp Humphreys 33; Camp Humphreys eliminated

Friday's games
Game 6—Osan Air Base 60, Yongsan Garrison 34; Yongsan Garrison eliminated

Awards
MVP—Richere Harrison, Osan Air Base

All-Tournament team—Richere Harrison, LaQuana Ayers, Mariela Miles, Osan Air Base; Nona Burns, Yongsan Garrison; Tanisha Chook, Camp Humphreys; Jennifer McFadden, Misawa Air Base.

Osan Air Base 60, Yongsan Garrison 34

Halftime—Osan Air Base 37, Yongsan Garrison 19. **Scoring**—Osan Air Base, Mariela Miles 17, LaQuana Ayers 13; Yongsan Garrison, Quay Dubose 13.

Interservice basketball

Kunsan wins first Osan Pacificwide title

Denying Welch ball key for Wolf Pack; Osan wins women's crown

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — Just keep the ball from Nicholas Welch.

That was coach Ed Brown's instruction to his Kunsan Air Base Wolf Pack men's basketball team midway through the second half of Friday's second final game in the 23rd Osan Pacificwide Holiday Basketball Tournament.

The strategy worked. Guards Tyrice Gaddy and Adrien Lomax took turns shadowing Andersen Air Force Base's Air Force Academy veteran, and Lomax hit the go-ahead bucket with 2:30 left as Kunsan rallied from a 13-point deficit to win its first title in this tournament.

"Deny him the ball. Baseline to baseline. That was the key," said Brown, who said he was worried when the Bombers seized a 55-42 lead on Phillip Coleman's driving bucket with 15:20 left. "I had a headache. I was looking around for the Motrin and Tylenol."

Andersen forced the deciding game of the double-elimination tournament by winning the first final game decisively 65-42.

In the women's final, host Osan left nothing to chance, routing Yongsan Garrison 60-34.

Men's championship

Kunsan Air Base 42-76, Andersen Air Force Base 65-74:

Welch had torched the Wolf Pack for 26 points when Brown opted to use Gaddy and Lomax in a box-and-one defense with 15 minutes left. Welch, the tournament's MVP, was held to four points the rest of the way.

"I knew as long as the players came together and did what I told them, we'd be all right," Brown said. "What we needed was that spark — deny him the ball, and it paid off."

Coleman's basket capped a 13-3 run that seemingly left Kunsan on the ropes. But led by Larry Boyd, who had 14 of his 17 points in the second half, Kunsan chipped away and took command in the final two minutes.

Boyd's free throw with 18.8 seconds left capped the scoring. Andersen's Maurice Wong missed a three-point attempt at the buzzer to win it.

"They had a little more left in the tank than we did," said coach Gerry Barnes, whose Bombers played three games Friday to Kunsan's two. "I commend Kunsan. They sucked it up. They

wanted it more than we did. I have no complaints. We just got tired, and they capitalized."

In the first final game, Andersen outscored Kunsan 35-11 over a 17:15 span to rally from an 18-16 first-half deficit. Julian Phillips had 18 points for Andersen. Boyd led Kunsan, hounded by foul trouble, with 13.

Women's championship

Osan Air Base 60, Yongsan Garrison 34: Led by their All-Air Force trio of LaQuana Ayers (twice), tournament MVP Richere Harrison (once) and Mariela Miles (two-time All-Armed Forces), the host Defenders, taking advantage of 24 turnovers, gradually built a lead of 27 points down the stretch.

Miles had 17 points and Ayers 13 as Osan won despite not having point guard Tiki McGahee, who missed game time due to work. But as guard-laden as Osan is, it didn't matter, coach Jonathan Jenkins said.

"I have about six guards, any one of whom can handle" point-guard duty, Jenkins said. "Everybody stepped up. When you win like we have, every game has been like that. The bench grows our leads. We'd have a 20-point lead when the subs come in, and it would grow to 30 or 40."

Quay Dubose led Yongsan with 13 points.

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: orny@pstrips.osd.mil



GARY CASHMAN/Special to Stars and Stripes

Kunsan Air Base's Corneilius Holloway knifes between Maurice Wong and Nicholas Welch of Andersen Air Force Base during Friday's men's championship game in the 23rd Osan Pacificwide Holiday Basketball Tournament at Osan Air Base, South Korea. Kunsan edged Andersen 76-74 in the second of two final games for its first title in this tournament.

HURRY, IT'S NOT TOO LATE... ORDER TODAY!



- Active Duty Pre-Approved
- Payments as low as \$25/payday

FREE x3
Free Giftwrap
Free Shipping &
Free Calling Card
Offer ends 12/31/09.

HARRIS
JEWELRY
21 STORES NATIONWIDE!

Shop 24/7 @

www.HARRISJEWELRY.com

*Enter Source Code: STARS at online check-out.

All Sales Subject to Credit Approval. *Not valid on prior purchases. Preferred Customer Discounts can be used with this offer, but no other offers may be applied. PROMO CODE MUST BE ENTERED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/09

**BEEN THERE.
DONE THAT.**

Click today... cash tomorrow® www.militaryloans.com

We've been making loans of up to \$10,000 to active duty military for over 59 years.



"We love to say yes"®

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Pittsburgh	35	24	10	1	49	114	90		
New Jersey	32	23	8	1	47	93	69		
N.Y. Rangers	34	15	16	3	33	94	100		
N.Y. Islanders	35	13	15	7	33	88	113		
Philadelphia	33	15	16	2	32	93	97		
Northeast Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Buffalo	32	20	10	2	42	85	70		
Ottawa	33	17	12	4	38	94	96		
Boston	32	16	10	6	38	84	80		
Montreal	36	15	18	3	33	90	104		
Toronto	34	12	15	7	31	100	122		
Southeast Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Washington	34	21	7	6	48	124	95		
Atlanta	33	18	12	3	39	108	99		
Florida	35	14	14	7	35	99	115		
Tampa Bay	34	11	14	9	31	81	104		
Carolina	33	8	19	6	22	82	120		

Western Conference

Central Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Chicago	32	21	8	3	45	95	67		
Nashville	35	21	11	3	45	101	98		
Detroit	34	18	11	5	41	95	89		
Columbus	35	14	14	7	35	101	121		
St. Louis	32	14	13	5	33	78	88		
Northwest Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Calgary	34	20	10	4	44	98	82		
Colorado	36	19	11	6	44	104	105		
Vancouver	34	19	15	0	38	106	88		
Minnesota	34	17	14	3	37	89	95		
Edmonton	34	15	15	4	34	103	109		
Pacific Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Los Angeles	37	22	12	3	47	111	108		
San Jose	35	20	8	7	47	115	93		
Phoenix	35	21	12	2	44	89	79		
Dallas	34	14	9	11	39	101	105		
Anaheim	34	13	14	7	33	95	109		

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Thursday's games

Phoenix 2, Columbus 1, SO
Pittsburgh 3, Philadelphia 2, SO
Minnesota 3, Montreal 1
Atlanta 6, Dallas 5, OT
N.Y. Rangers 5, N.Y. Islanders 2
Detroit 3, Tampa Bay 0
Calgary 2, Los Angeles 1
Nashville 6, Edmonton 3
San Jose 4, Anaheim 1

Friday's games

Ottawa at New Jersey
Toronto at Buffalo
Carolina at Florida
Tampa Bay at St. Louis
Boston at Chicago
Washington at Vancouver

Saturday's games

N.Y. Rangers at Philadelphia
Detroit at Dallas
Phoenix at Anaheim
Nashville at Calgary
Montreal at N.Y. Islanders
New Jersey at Atlanta
Minnesota at Ottawa
Florida at Carolina
Pittsburgh at Buffalo
Boston at Toronto
Columbus at Colorado
Washington at Edmonton

Thursday

Coyotes 2,

Blue Jackets 1 (SO)

Phoenix 1 0 0 0-2
Columbus 0 0 1 0-1

Phoenix won shootout 2-1

First Period—1, Phoenix, Yandle 5, 1:48.

Third Period—2, Columbus, Nash 18 (Tyutin, Stralman), 8:19 (pp).

Shootout—Phoenix 2 (Vrbata NG, Doan G, Lang G), Columbus 1 (Huselius NG, Nash G).

Shots on Goal—Phoenix 6-10-6-5—27.

Columbus 11-13-10-5—39.

Power-play opportunities—Phoenix 0 of 2; Columbus 1 of 6.

Goalies—Phoenix, LaBarbera 2-3-0 (39 shots-38 saves). Columbus, Garon 4-3-2 (27-26).

A—13,363 (18,144). T—2:36.

Penguins 3, Flyers 2 (SO)

Pittsburgh 1 1 0 0-3
Philadelphia 1 1 0 0-2

Pittsburgh won shootout 2-0

First Period—1, Philadelphia, Carter 12 (Carle, Briere), 1:15; 2, Pittsburgh, Guerin 9 (Kunitz, Malkin), 3:48 (pp).

Second Period—3, Philadelphia, Giroux 7 (Carcillo, Richards), 2:04 (pp), 4, Pittsburgh, Crosby 22 (Kunitz, Gonchar), 9:17 (pp).

Shootout—Pittsburgh 2 (Letang G, Crosby G), Philadelphia 0 (Briere NG, Giroux NG).

Shots on Goal—Pittsburgh 14-8-8-0—30.

Philadelphia 11-9-11-2—33.

Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 2 of 5; Philadelphia 1 of 3.

Goalies—Pittsburgh, Fleury 20-8-1 (33 shots-31 saves). Philadelphia, Boucher 4-8-1 (30-28).

A—19,689 (19,537). T—2:39.

Wild 3, Canadiens 1

Minnesota 2 0 1-3
Montreal 1 0 0-1

First Period—1, Minnesota, Earl 3 (Johnsson), 2:41; 2, Montreal, A.Kostitsyn 9 (Gomez), 3:26; 3, Minnesota, Koivu 10 (Havlat, Brunette), 14:08 (pp).

Third Period—4, Minnesota, Clutterbuck 6 (Kobasew, Schultz), 11:47.

Shots on Goal—Minnesota 11-7-3—21.

Montreal 7-12-12—31.

Power-play opportunities—Minnesota 1 of 1; Montreal 0 of 2.

Goalies—Minnesota, Backstrom 15-10-3 (31 shots-30 saves). Montreal, Price 9-13-3 (21-18).

A—21,273 (21,273). T—2:15.

Thrashers 6, Stars 5 (OT)

Dallas 2 1 2 0-5
Atlanta 1 2 2 1-6

First Period—1, Dallas, Robidas 8 (Modano, Eriksson), 2:12 (pp), 2, Atlanta, Kovalchuk 19 (Afinogenov, White), 6:30 (pp), 3, Dallas, Lehtinen 2 (Ott, Fistrick), 16:14 (sh).

Second Period—4, Atlanta, Slater 1, 10:47; 5, Atlanta, Antropov 6 (Peverley, Enstrom), 12:35 (pp), 6, Dallas, Benn 6 (Ribeiro), 18:02.

Third Period—7, Dallas, Robidas 9 (Modano, Grossman), 4:43 (pp), 8, Atlanta, Afinogenov 12 (Little, Kovalchuk), 8:27 (pp), 9, Atlanta, Peverley 11 (Armstrong, Hainsey), 12:46 (sh), 10, Dallas, Eriksson 11 (Robidas), 18:48.

Overtime—11, Atlanta, Peverley 12 (Afinogenov, Kubina), 1:16.

Shots on Goal—Dallas 17-16-14-0—47.

Atlanta 6-9-9-1—25.

Power-play opportunities—Dallas 2 of 4; Atlanta 3 of 4.

Goalies—Dallas, Auld (15 shots-12 saves), Turco 10-7-8 (12:35 second, 10-7).

Atlanta, Pavelec 9-8-3 (47-42).

A—11,957 (18,545). T—2:27.

Rangers 5, Islanders 2

N.Y. Rangers 2 1 2-5
N.Y. Islanders 0 1 1-2

First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Callahan 8 (Gaborik, Prospal), 13:06 (pp), 2, N.Y. Rangers, Drury 3 (Avery, Rozsival), 17:56.

Second Period—3, N.Y. Rangers, Callahan 9 (Gaborik, Rozsival), 2:27 (pp), 4, N.Y. Islanders, MacDonald 1 (Streit, Nielsen), 9:31.

Third Period—5, N.Y. Rangers, Gaborik 24 (Prospal, Callahan), 3:37 (pp), 6, N.Y. Rangers, Anisimov 6 (Callahan, Girardi), 6:50; 7, N.Y. Islanders, Nielsen 5 (Sutton, Comeau), 15:14.

Shots on Goal—N.Y. Rangers 4-12-6—22.

N.Y. Islanders 14-14-9—37.

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 3 of 6; N.Y. Islanders 0 of 7.

Goalies—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 13-13-3 (37 shots-35 saves). N.Y. Islanders, Roloson 11-6-5 (22-17).

A—15,138 (16,234). T—2:19.

Red Wings 3, Lightning 0

Tampa Bay 0 0 0-0
Detroit 1 0 2-3

First Period—1, Detroit, Miller 4 (Rafalski), 8:24.

Third Period—2, Detroit, Bertuzzi 9 (Holmstrom, Datsyuk), 6:48; 3, Detroit, Eaves 4 (Lidstrom, Rafalski), 10:10.

Shots on Goal—Tampa Bay 10-10-10—30.

Detroit 9-9-5—22.

Power-play opportunities—Tampa Bay 0 of 5; Detroit 0 of 2.

Goalies—Tampa Bay, Smith 5-9-5 (22 shots-19 saves). Detroit, Howard 11-6-1 (30-30).

A—19,474 (20,066). T—2:16.

Flames 2, Kings 1

Los Angeles 0 0 1-1
Calgary 1 0 1-2

First Period—1, Calgary, Phaneuf 7 (Iginla, Jokinen), 19:59 (pp).

Third Period—2, Calgary, Dawes 10 (Langkow, Bourque), 1:02; 3, Los Angeles, Elkins 1 (Moller, Richardson), 11:06.

Shots on Goal—Los Angeles 8-11-16—35.

Calgary 10-11-3—24.

Power-play opportunities—Los Angeles 0 of 3; Calgary 1 of 5.

Goalies—Los Angeles, Quick 20-11-3 (24 shots-22 saves). Calgary, Kiprusoff 18-8-4 (35-34).

A—19,289 (19,289). T—2:21.

Predators 6, Oilers 3

Nashville 3 2 1-6
Edmonton 2 1 0-3

First Period—1, Edmonton, Nilsson 3 (Visnovsky, Deslauriers), 3:05 (pp), 2, Edmonton, Visnovsky 8 (Brule, Penner), 5:01; 3, Nashville, Jones 4 (Belak), 12:13.

4, Nashville, Ward 6 (Legwand, Suter), 16:09; 5, Nashville, Goc 5 (Dumont, Hornqvist), 16:59.

Second Period—6, Nashville, Hornqvist 9 (Arnott, Dumont), 8:18; 7, Edmonton, Nilsson 4 (Hornqvist, Souray), 14:10 (pp), 8, Nashville, Hornqvist 10 (Suter, Erat), 19:56 (pp).

Third Period—9, Nashville, Smithson 6 (Legwand, Ward), 19:16.

Shots on Goal—Nashville 16-6-5—27.

Edmonton 10-6-10—26.

Power-play opportunities—Nashville 1 of 3; Edmonton 2 of 5.

Goalies—Nashville, Rinne (4 shots-2 saves), D.Ellis 7-5-1 (5:01 first, 22-21). Edmonton, Deslauriers 8-6-2 (27-21).

A—16,839 (16,839). T—2:25.

Sharks 4, Ducks 1

Anaheim 0 0 1-1
San Jose 0 2 2-4

Second Period—1, San Jose, Thornton 8 (Marleau, Setoguchi), 9:15; 2, San Jose, Marleau 21 (Murray, Thornton), 15:25.

Third Period—3, Anaheim, Getzlaf 8 (Ryan, Niedermayer), 3:4 (pp), 4, San Jose, Thornton 9 (Pavelski, Boyle), 13:23 (pp), 5, San Jose, Setoguchi 9 (Thornton, Marleau), 16:11.

Unassisted Penalty Shot—Mitchell, SJ, 13:40 first.

Shots on Goal—Anaheim 9-6-6—21.

San Jose 18-11-8—37.

Power-play opportunities—Anaheim 1 of 4; San Jose 1 of 5.

Goalies—Anaheim, Giguere 4-5-5 (37 shots-33 saves). San Jose, Nabokov 17-5-7 (21-20).

A—17,562 (17,496). T—2:27.



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Detroit Red Wings center Henrik Zetterberg grimaces after being checked by Tampa Bay Lightning defenseman Mattias Ohlund in the first period Thursday night in Detroit. Zetterberg left the game with a slight separation of the left shoulder, and the team later said he'd be sidelined for at least two weeks.

NHL roundup

Howard, Detroit blank Tampa

Goaltender stops 30 shots for first NHL shutout; short-handed Red Wings lose center after big hit

The Associated Press

DETROIT — The Detroit Red Wings won another game but lost another player.

Jimmy Howard made 30 saves for his first NHL shutout in Detroit's 3-0 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Thursday night.

Drew Miller, Todd Bertuzzi and Patrick Eaves scored for Detroit, and Brian Rafalski had two assists. But Red Wings center Henrik Zetterberg, the team's leading scorer, will be out for a minimum of two weeks after suffering a slight left shoulder separation.

The 29-year-old Swede suffered the injury with 1:43 left in the first period Thursday after a crushing hit by Tampa Bay defenseman Mattias Ohlund.

Zetterberg was on the ice on his hands and knees before being helped off.

"That was unfortunate," Ohlund said. "I'm not trying to hurt anybody. I like to play hard."

Zetterberg has 10 goals and 22 assists in 34 games.

The Red Wings were already without Johan Franzen, Valtteri Filppula, Jason Williams, Niklas Kronwall, Dan Cleary, Darren Helm and Jonathan Ericsson because of injuries. Despite those losses, they have won four straight.

"I just think the guys are playing hard and we're getting good goaltending," said coach Mike

Babcock, who got his 300th career victory.

Howard, in his first full NHL season, continued his outstanding play. Not only did he get his first shutout, but his grandparents were in the stands.

"It feels great. It's exciting to do it in front of my grandparents," Howard said. "It's something real special. It's not their first game at the Joe. But it's their first game watching me. It's awesome."

Rangers 5, Islanders 2: At Uniondale, N.Y., Henrik Lundqvist stopped 35 shots and made coach John Tortorella's decision to bench two veterans look smart as the Rangers snapped a five-game losing streak.

Following the Rangers' 2-1 loss at home to the Islanders on Wednesday, Tortorella responded by benching defenseman Wade Redden and forward Ales Kotalik for the rematch. Captain Chris Drury was dropped to the fourth line for the start of the game.

Thrashers 6, Stars 5 (OT): Rich Peverley scored his second goal of the game 1:16 into overtime, and Ondrej Pavelec stopped 42 shots in Atlanta's first home victory over Dallas.

Loui Eriksson scored for Dallas with 1:12 remaining in regulation — after the Stars pulled goalie Marty Turco for an extra attacker — to force overtime.

Penguins 3, Flyers 2 (SO): Kris Letang and Sidney Crosby scored in a shootout to give visit-

ing Pittsburgh its fourth straight victory.

Crosby, who also scored in regulation, is 5-for-5 in shootouts this season and Pittsburgh is 5-0 in tiebreakers. Bill Guerin also scored for the Penguins.

Sharks 4, Ducks 1: Joe Thornton scored twice in the second period, and host San Jose snapped a five-game losing streak to move into a tie with Los Angeles for the Western Conference lead.

Evgeni Nabokov stopped 20 shots, and Patrick Marleau and Devin Setoguchi added goals for San Jose. Ryan Getzlaf had a power-play goal for Anaheim.

Wild 3, Canadiens 1: Mikko Koivu broke a first-period tie with a power-play goal, and Niklas Backstrom made 30 saves for visiting Minnesota.

Predators 6, Oilers 3: Patrick Hornqvist scored two goals and had an assist to help visiting Nashville improve to 5-0-1 in its past six games.

Coyotes 2, Blue Jackets 1 (SO): Robert Lang scored the deciding shootout goal, and Jason LaBarbera made 38 saves for Phoenix. Keith Yandle scored for Phoenix in regulation, and Rick Nash countered for host Columbus.

Flames 2, Kings 1: Miikka Kiprusoff made 34 saves, and Dion Phaneuf and Nigel Dawes scored goals in host Calgary's victory over Western Conference-leading Los Angeles.

Sports briefs

Knight says college basketball lacks integrity

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Bob Knight said integrity is lacking in college basketball and cited Kentucky coach John Calipari as an example.

During a fundraiser for the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame, Knight said he doesn't understand why Calipari is still coaching.

"We've gotten into this situation where integrity is really lacking and that's why I'm glad I'm not coaching," he said. "You see we've got a coach at Kentucky who put two schools on probation and he's still coaching. I really don't understand that."

Massachusetts and Memphis were both sanctioned by the NCAA for violations committed during Calipari's tenure.

Knight, who won a record 902 games as coach of Army, Indiana and Texas Tech, did not elaborate or take questions from reporters.

On Friday, Calipari refused to get into a war of words, saying he remains a "big fan" of Knight.

"I don't agree with what he says but it doesn't change how I feel about him," Calipari said.

Report: NHL player's brain had damage from head trauma

NEW YORK — Former NHL player Reggie Fleming, who died in July, had brain damage due to repeated head trauma, linking hockey for the first time to a condition usually found in boxers, the New York Times reported Friday.

Fleming, who spent 12 seasons in the NHL, was found by Boston University researchers to have had Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, a disease that causes cognitive decline, behavioral abnormalities and ultimately dementia, the Times said. Fleming is the first hockey player known to have been tested for the disease, which was also found in several former NFL players recently.

Fleming, who died at age 73, had 108 goals, 132 assists and 1,468 penalty minutes in 749 career games with the Montreal Canadiens, Chicago Blackhawks, Boston Bruins, New York Rangers, Philadelphia Flyers and Buffalo Sabres. He helped the Blackhawks win the Stanley Cup in 1961 and also spent two seasons World Hockey Association's Chicago Cougars.

Rockets' Yao targets next season for NBA return

SHANGHAI — Yao Ming said he is recovering well after foot surgery and hopes to return to the NBA by next season.

The 7-foot-6 Houston Rockets center who is out for the season after having surgery in May said Friday, "I'm definitely recovering and the recent results of my check-ups allowed me to make this long trip back to Shanghai from the U.S."

Attending an event to mark the launch of a public service announcement about protecting sharks by the San Francisco-based conservation group WildAid, Yao said, "I might be completely recovered by next season."



MIKE ALBANS/AP

Appalachian State quarterback Armanti Edwards (14) became the first two-time winner of the Walter Payton Award, presented annually to the top player in the Football Championship Subdivision.

In other NBA news:

■ Jameer Nelson could return to the Orlando Magic lineup by next week. Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said Nelson is scheduled to practice Sunday, and if all goes well, it might not be long before the All-Star is back in Orlando's starting five. Nelson had surgery Nov. 18 to repair torn cartilage in his left knee. He was averaging 13.7 points and 5.5 assists when he was hurt.

■ New York Knicks guard Larry Hughes is expected to miss the next two games because of a strained left groin. Hughes, who is averaging 12.3 points a game, was unavailable Thursday night against the Chicago Bulls and was not expected to play Friday against the Los Angeles Clippers.

Seattle gets Bradley from Cubs

SEATTLE — Mercurial outfielder Milton Bradley was traded to the Seattle Mariners from the Chicago Cubs on Friday for expensive and underperforming pitcher Carlos Silva.

Chicago has wanted to deal Bradley since suspending him for the final two weeks of last season, shortly after he criticized the atmosphere surrounding a team that hasn't won a World Series since 1908.

Seattle, which has never played in a World Series, didn't expect to find a suitor for Silva. He has done little except lose and get hurt in the two seasons since he signed

a \$48 million, four-year contract. Silva won five games in two years with the Mariners: \$4.8 million per victory.

Second-year Mariners general manager Jack Zduriencik, who inherited Silva's contract from predecessor Bill Bavasi, has been seeking more offense following his acquisition of ace Cliff Lee in a trade with Philadelphia and signing All-Star infielder Chone Figgins.

Appalachian State QB wins second Payton Award

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Appalachian State quarterback Armanti Edwards became the first two-time winner of the Walter Payton Award, which goes to the top player in the Football Championship Subdivision.

The award, along with honors for best defensive player and coach, was announced Thursday night, a day before Montana (14-0) and Villanova (13-1) were slated to play for the FCS title.

Edwards is the first quarterback in NCAA history to pass for more than 10,000 yards and rush for over 4,000 yards in his career. He won national championships in his first two seasons at Appalachian State and guided the Mountaineers to a victory at Michigan in 2007.

Phelps, Hardy help set records

MANCHESTER, England — Michael Phelps and Jessica Hardy helped the U.S. men's and women's teams set short-course world records in the 4x100-meter medley relays in Duel in the Pool on Friday.

The American men finished in 3 minutes, 20.71 seconds to beat a European all-star team at Manchester Aquatics Center.

Phelps swam the third leg and was joined by Nick Thoman, Mark Gangloff and Nathan Adrian. They broke the mark of 3:23.33 set by Canada in August.

Hardy swam the second leg for the women, and teammates Margaret Hoelzer, Dana Volmer and Amanda Weir set the mark in 3:47.97. They broke the record of 3:49.45 set by Canada this fall.

AP source: Johnson reaches \$5.5M deal with Yankees

NEW YORK — Nick Johnson is returning to the New York Yankees, a move that likely will end Johnny Damon's time in New York after four seasons.

A source familiar with the negotiations said Friday that Johnson and the Yankees reached a preliminary agreement on a \$5.5 million, one-year contract. The source spoke on condition of anonymity because the agreement wasn't yet complete.

Johnson, who last played for the Florida Marlins, must pass a physical for the agreement to be completed.

Duke assistant hired as San Jose State football coach

SAN JOSE, Calif. — San Jose State hired Duke defensive coordinator Mike MacIntyre as its football coach on Friday.

San Jose State went 2-10 this season under Dick Tomey, who announced his

retirement last month. Tomey spent five seasons with the Spartans, going 25-35 and leading them to a bowl game in 2006.

MacIntyre, 44, spent the past two seasons at Duke. He has also worked as a secondary coach in the NFL with Dallas and the New York Jets and spent five seasons as an assistant at Mississippi.

In MacIntyre's first season, Duke's defense allowed 23.4 points per game, its lowest total in 20 seasons, and held three opponents to less than 10 points for the first time since 1976.

Mexican soccer coach killed

JUAREZ, Mexico — An assistant coach of the Mexico first-division soccer team Indios was shot to death Friday in this border city, where 2,400 people have been killed this year — most in drug-related violence.

The body of Pedro Picasso, 34, was found in a shop that sells cellular telephones, said Jacinto Segura, a spokesman for the local prosecutor's office. He gave no motive for the shooting in which a second person also died from gunshot wounds. The second victim wasn't immediately identified.

Jones' relay teammates lose ruling to keep medals

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — U.S. runners lost a preliminary ruling in their fight to keep the Olympic relay medals stripped because of Marion Jones' doping offenses.

The Court of Arbitration for Sport on Friday rejected a motion by the runners against a decision by the International Olympic Committee to take away their medals from the 2000 Sydney Games.

Jones, who has admitted using banned drugs, helped the U.S. women win gold in the 1,600 relay and bronze in the 400 relay. Jones has been stripped of her five medals, including gold in the 100 and 200 meters and bronze in the long jump. The IOC stripped all the relay medals last year.

CAS upheld the IOC's right to decide on the medals. The court will now summon the parties to a hearing on the merits of the case.

Vonn wins super-combi, tied for first overall in World Cup

VAL D'ISERE, France — Lindsey Vonn won a World Cup super-combined Friday, gaining a 25th career victory by taking advantage of her speed skills.

The American, who led by a massive 1.52 seconds after the downhill, overcame poor visibility in the slalom run and finished with a combined time of 2 minutes, 37.55 seconds on the Oreiller-Killy course. Her rival and friend, Maria Riesch of Germany, was 1.16 seconds behind. They are tied for the overall lead with 521 points.

Svindal wins super-G; Miller finishes fifth

VAL GARDENA, Italy — Defending overall World Cup champion Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway won a super-G on Friday for his first victory of the season, while Bode Miller finished fifth.

DISCOUNT TIRE DIRECT

— SAME DAY SHIPPING ON MOST ORDERS
— FREE MOUNTING AND BALANCING ON TIRE AND WHEEL PACKAGES
— THE LOWEST DELIVERED PRICE ON THE INTERNET!

FREE SHIPPING

Valid for UPS Ground service to 48 contiguous states. Some restrictions apply.

NEW Toll Free Phone Number:
888-459-4058

Tel: 602.735.1800 Fax: 602.735.1891
EST. M-F 9am-6pm Sat. 9am-6pm

FALKEN TIRE

\$80

Get an **Mail-In Rebate** with the purchase of a set of four Falken Azenis RT-615 tires.

* General restrictions apply. Ask a sales associate for details. Offer expires April 31, 2010.

discounttiredirect.com

NFL briefs

Bengals dedicate rest of season to Henry

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — For the second time in their breakthrough season, the Cincinnati Bengals are dealing with death.

Teary players held a somber practice Thursday and dedicated the rest of their season to receiver Chris Henry after learning that he had died a day after falling from the back of a pickup truck during what police described as a domestic dispute.

Shocked players huddled by themselves in the locker room once they got word that Henry had died at a hospital in Charlotte, N.C. They said a group prayer, then went out on the Paul Brown Stadium field to walk through some of their plays for a game in San Diego.

No one said much.

"It was tough," receiver Andre Caldwell said. "We were crying."

Not the first time, either.

The team was grief-stricken in October when Vicki Zimmer, the wife of defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer, died at the couple's home. Three days later, Zimmer coached the defense in a 17-14 victory in Baltimore that put the Bengals in control of the AFC North. Afterward, players teared up when Zimmer received the game ball.

Losing a teammate hit the Bengals (9-4) even harder Thursday, leaving them in no mood to get ready for Sunday's game. They can clinch the division title and only their second playoff spot in the past 19 years with a victory.

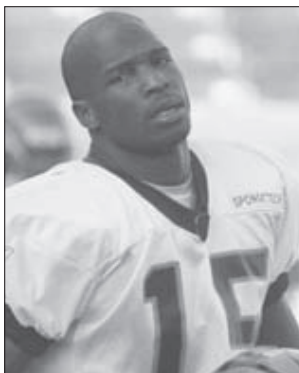
Players will put a No. 15 sticker on their helmets, and coaches will wear pins during the game.

Henry's death was particularly stunning to his teammates because he had put so much effort into changing his life in the past two years. Receiver Chad Ochocinco couldn't finish his plate of lunch — he dumped broccoli into a trash bin — and shuffled around the locker room slowly.

Ochocinco sniffled and blinked back tears welling in his eyes when he recalled talking to Henry on Tuesday night, catching up on things. Henry had been in Charlotte, where his fiancée's parents live, recovering from a broken arm that ended his season.

"He was doing everything right," Ochocinco said. "My grandma always says you never question the man upstairs on decisions he makes. Everyone makes mistakes, but I don't see how Chris was supposed to go already, especially when he was on the right path."

Players walked silently past



CINCINNATI ENQUIRER, ERNEST COLEMAN/AP

The Bengals' Chad Ochocinco wears the No. 15 jersey of teammate Chris Henry during practice Thursday. Henry died earlier in the day after falling off a pickup truck during what police called a domestic dispute.

Henry's locker in the corner of the room — his nameplate and No. 15 were affixed to the top of the cubicle, a wooden stool rested upside-down on the shelf, Henry's shoes were lined up at the bottom and his tiger-striped helmet hung from the side.

Ochocinco wore Henry's white No. 15 practice jersey for an afternoon workout that started in a somber mood — no joking, no laughing, hardly any talking as players stretched.

After learning of Henry's death, quarterback Carson Palmer called the players together and suggested they dedicate the rest of the season to the receiver and Vicki Zimmer.

A talented player, Henry, 26, had struggled through a number of mistakes away from the field — he was suspended five times — and the Bengals released him after the 2007 season as he dealt with an assault charge. But owner Mike Brown decided to give Henry another chance and brought him back on a two-year deal before the 2008 season.

Brown liked Henry's personality and was glad that he gave him another chance.

"I don't regret it," Brown said. "He had troubles and some of them were made more of than I think they actually were. But we knew him here as the person he was in fact."

No deal yet for Browns, Holmgren

BEREA, Ohio — As Cleveland Browns players dressed for practice on Thursday, defensive lineman Corey Williams began

chanting, "We want Holmgren! We want Holmgren!"

Mike Holmgren left Cleveland on Wednesday without a contract to take over as the Browns' director of football operations. Team spokesman Bill Bonsiewicz said money wasn't discussed, despite reports Holmgren could command upwards of \$10 million a year, but that the sides agreed to talk again in the coming days.

Bonsiewicz offered no specifics of the conversation, or whether the Browns have brought in other candidates.

Jets' Sanchez to start against Falcons

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Rookie Mark Sanchez will start for the New York Jets against the Atlanta Falcons after missing one game with a sprained posterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. Coach Rex Ryan said Sanchez was cleared by doctors after practicing three days in a row.

Sanchez missed the Jets' 26-3 victory last Sunday at Tampa Bay after injuring the knee against Buffalo on Dec. 3, and was replaced by Kellen Clemens. Sanchez returned to practice Wednesday and experienced no setbacks during the week.

Sanchez will wear custom-fitted braces on both knees. He had been wearing one on the left from a previous injury.

Life sentence in shooting of former Jaguars OL

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A judge handed down a life sen-

tence Thursday for the man convicted of attempted first-degree murder in the shooting of former Jacksonville Jaguars offensive lineman Richard Collier.

The state attorney's office said Judge Mallory Cooper sentenced Tyrone Hartsfield, 33, after his conviction last month.

Collier was shot six times last year as he waited in his car outside a Jacksonville apartment building. He was paralyzed from the waist down and his left leg was amputated.

Prosecutors said Hartsfield was seeking revenge after he was knocked out in a fight with Collier in April at a nightclub.

Man sentenced for selling gun that killed McNair

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Adrian Gilliam, a convicted murderer who pleaded guilty to selling the gun used to kill ex-NFL quarterback Steve McNair, was sentenced Friday to 2½ years in prison.

Gilliam acknowledged during a court hearing in September that he sold a loaded 9 mm semiautomatic pistol to McNair's mistress for \$100. Nashville police said the woman, Sahel Kazemi, 20, used the weapon to kill McNair and herself on July 4. Gilliam was arrested about two weeks later and initially pleaded not guilty.

Ex-lineman to plead guilty to accepting bribe

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. — A former NFL lineman who became a county commissioner in northeastern Pennsylvania re-

signed and agreed to plead guilty to accepting a bribe.

Greg Skrepenak is accused of taking \$5,000 from a developer for supporting a tax-incentive program. He faces at least 33 months in prison under the terms of the plea agreement filed Friday in federal court.

Skrepenak, 39, resigned Thursday as a Luzerne County commissioner, a post he was first elected to in 2003.

The Wilkes-Barre, Pa., native played six seasons in the NFL as an offensive lineman for the Oakland Raiders and Carolina Panthers, from 1992 to 1997.

Harvin back, says he should be able to play

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Minnesota Vikings wide receiver Percy Harvin returned to practice Friday, and the rookie said he should be able to play Sunday at Carolina.

Harvin missed all last week and practices Wednesday and Thursday because of migraine headaches. But he was on the field participating in drills with his helmet on Friday.

Moore start at QB for Panthers again

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Matt Moore will make his third consecutive start at quarterback for the Carolina Panthers on Sunday against the Minnesota Vikings.

Jake Delhomme was ruled out Friday because of a broken finger that's kept him sidelined since Nov. 29.

Injured Civilian Workers

including Non-US Citizens

The Law Offices of Barnett & Lerner, P.A.

Know and protect your legal rights

If you work for a company under contract with the United States Government outside the U.S., and fall ill or are injured at work, you may have the right to benefits under U.S. law. You may be entitled to benefits under the **Defense Base Act**. This law protects and applies to **all injured employees, regardless of their citizenship or nationality**. You must notify your employer immediately of an injury or accident and a claim must be filed with the US Department of Labor. Under the law, you may be entitled to select a doctor and you may be entitled to wages if unable or restricted from working.

Barnett & Lerner, P.A. represents injured workers throughout the world and assists them in getting appropriate medical care and lost wages.

In addition, we are available for a free consultation
US TOLL FREE 888-732-7425
or 954-920-7400



Hire us from your computer

www.injuredoverseas.com

You can now hire Barnett & Lerner, P.A. directly from your computer. The firm uses electronic signature software which enables you to retain our services from your desktop.

JOHN & CHRISTIAN
DESIGNERS & CRAFTSMEN

ANNIVERSARY DATE
IN ROMAN NUMERALS!
December 11, 1998
XII XI MCMXCVIII
\$650

or

CHILDREN'S NAMES & BIRTHSTONES
(UP TO 5 NAMES)
\$225

ORDER BY
DEC. 22
FOR
HOLIDAY
DELIVERY!

10% MILITARY DISCOUNT! CODE JCMILS 3-DAY RUSH AVAILABLE! FREE CATALOGUE

VIEW OUR ENTIRE COLLECTION ONLINE! RINGBOX.COM 512.858.2556

NFL: WEEK 15



PHIL COALE/AP

Jacksonville Jaguars tight end Marcedes Lewis catches a second-quarter pass despite the efforts of Colts linebacker Philip Wheeler on Thursday night. The Colts rallied for a 35-31 triumph.

For Colts, the year of living dangerously

Manning engineers another comeback as Indy goes to 14-0

By MARK LONG
The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Peyton Manning jogged off the field with a relatively clean jersey.

No dirt spots. No grass stains. Barely even sweat marks.

It looked as though Manning got the night off, much like some predicted because the Indianapolis Colts had already clinched a first-round bye and home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs.

It was misleading.

Manning threw for 308 yards and four touchdowns, including a 65-yarder to Reggie Wayne to put Indianapolis ahead for good, and the Colts stayed unbeaten with a 35-31 victory in a wild game against the Jacksonville Jaguars on Thursday night.

"We've had some extremely close games," Manning said.

"Do we feel fortunate to be undefeated? Certainly. Anybody that's followed us each week can go back to a lot of games and say, 'Boy, if we don't make that play, we're not undefeated.'"

The Colts improved to 14-0 for the first time in franchise history and extended their NFL-record regular-season winning streak to 23 games. They also became the third 14-0 team in league history, joining the 1972 Miami Dolphins and 2007 New England Patriots. New Orleans can match the feat with a victory over Dallas on Saturday night.

Colts 35, Jaguars 31

Indianapolis	0	21	7	7-35
Jacksonville	3	14	14	0-31

First Quarter

Jac—FG Scobee 50, 7:27.

Second Quarter

Ind—Clark 6 pass from Manning (Stover kick), 14:13.

Jac—Jones-Drew 9 pass from Garrard (Scobee kick), 8:25.

Ind—Simpson 93 kickoff return (Stover kick), 8:12.

Jac—Jones-Drew 3 run (Scobee kick), 2:58.

Ind—Collie 23 pass from Manning (Stover kick), :35.

Third Quarter

Jac—Sims-Walker 16 pass from Garrard (Scobee kick), 8:32.

Ind—Clark 27 pass from Manning (Stover kick), 5:28.

Jac—M.Thomas 13 pass from Garrard (Scobee kick), :47.

Fourth Quarter

Ind—Wayne 65 pass from Manning (Stover kick), 5:23.

A—63,753.

Ind 18, Jac 25

Total Net Yards 369 345

Rushes-Yards 23-61 34-139

Passing 308 206

Punt Returns 2-8 2-17

Kickoff Returns 4-147 5-157

Interceptions Ret. 1-8 1-10

Comp-Att-Int 23-30-1 23-40-1

Sacked-Yards Lost 0-0 2-17

Punts 3-43.0 3-44.7

Fumbles-Lost 0-0 1-0

Penalties-Yards 5-40 4-22

Time of Possession 24:34 35:26

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Indianapolis, Addai 16-59,

Hart 3-3, Collie 1-2, Manning 3-(minus

3). Jacksonville, Jones-Drew 27-110, Jen-

nings 5-23, Garrard 2-6.

Passing—Indianapolis, Manning 23-

30-1-308. Jacksonville, Garrard 23-40-1-

223.

Receiving—Indianapolis, Clark 7-95,

Wayne 5-132, Collie 3-27, Addai 3-14, Gar-

con 2-16, Hart 1-11, Tammie 1-8, Robin-

son 1-5. Jacksonville, Sims-Walker 6-54,

Jones-Drew 5-30, Lewis 4-53, Holt 3-38,

M.Thomas 2-20, Wilford 1-7, Miller 1-6,

Jennings 1-5.

Missed field goals—Jacksonville, Sc-

obee 57.

"This is who we are," Wayne

said.

"We're built for 60 minutes. It won't be pretty all the time, but we're getting it done."

The back-and-forth game on a cool night included 714 yards, 43 first downs, 10 lead changes, six punts, several big plays and just two turnovers.

"This was an old-time shootout at the OK Corral," Colts coach Jim Caldwell said.

Jacksonville had a chance to win it in the closing minutes, but David Garrard overthrew Mike Thomas on third-and-10 with about a minute to play. Jacob Lacey intercepted the pass, and the Colts ran out the clock.

The Jaguars (7-7) lost for the third time in four games and no longer control their fate in the AFC wild-card race.

"We were close, so close, to being in this locker room celebrating," cornerback Derek Cox said. "But there's no moral victories. It's about winning. ... It's not in our hands anymore. But we still have two games left."

They have Manning to thank for the latest setback, which spoiled the team's home finale. The game was Jacksonville's first not blacked out on local television this season.

Manning completed his first 13 passes and was nearly as efficient as he was in last year's game in Jacksonville when he completed 17 in a row.

Manning finished 23-of-30 and wasn't sacked for the third week in a row. His only real mistake wasn't his fault. Dallas Clark bobbled a pass that Reggie Nelson tipped and Daryl Smith intercepted in the third quarter. The Jaguars turned the error into a touchdown and a 24-21 lead.

But it was short-lived.

Manning answered with an 80-yard drive, hitting Wayne with consecutive passes and later finding Clark across the middle for a 27-yard score. Wayne caught five passes for 132 yards. Clark had seven receptions for 95 yards and two scores.

Rookies: They're starting at almost all positions

ROOKIES, FROM BACK PAGE

It's really a young team in a lot of ways," said Ravens coach John Harbaugh, who has three key rookie contributors in tackle Michael Oher, cornerback Lardarius Webb and linebacker Paul Kruger. "We have a great mix of veteran leadership, but there's a lot of first-, second- and third-year players who are playing a lot of football for us and having an impact on games. That's really important in this league."

Sure is. There have been rookies starting at virtually every position, from quarterbacks Mark Sanchez of the New York Jets, Matthew Stafford of Detroit and Josh Freeman of Tampa Bay to Oher, Jason Brown of St. Louis and Phil Loadholt of Minnesota on the offensive line. From dynamic wideouts Percy Harvin of Minnesota, Austin Colie of Indianapolis and Jeremy Maclin of Philadelphia to aggressive linebackers Brian Cushing of Houston, James Laurinaitis of St. Louis and Clay Matthews of Green Bay.

There have been ballhawks — Buffalo's Jairus Byrd — and busts — Oakland's Darrius Heyward-Bey. First-round flops (Cincinnati's Andre Smith) and undrafted gems (Indy CB Jacob Lacey). Sacksters (Washington DE Brian Orakpo) and stumblers (Kansas City DE Tyson Jackson).

"There's a lot of things being thrown at him and that's a tough position to play. You're not going to see instantaneous results," Chiefs coach Todd Haley says of the No. 3 selection in the draft. "The guy has tremendous work ethic."

"Again, it takes a little time, a young player playing that position."

But it hasn't taken much time in Indianapolis, which has been dominant with four rookies playing key roles: Lacey and fellow cornerback Jerraud Powers, Colie and punter Pat McAfee.

"It is highly unusual," coach Jim Caldwell said of the rookies' contributions. "But I think we have a highly unusual team. One of the things that you find with teams that win and win consistently is that there is a sharing of information from the veterans to the rookies that is uninterrupted, unfiltered. And I think you have to attribute some of that to coaching, but a lot of that comes from the players showing them the nuances of what it takes to be great in this league."

Jacksonville has started two rookie offensive tackles, first-rounder Eugene Monroe and second-rounder Eben Britton, for much of the season. All nine of the Jags' picks have played.

The Dolphins have prospered with two rookies starting at cornerback: Sean Smith and Vontae Davis. Smith could become the first rookie to start all 16 games at cornerback for Miami. Davis became a starter Nov. 1.

Both impressed no less an expert than Bill Belichick.

"What jumps out is they're

both big," New England's coach said. "They're bigger than most corners. ... Both of those guys are good, solid players. They cover well in short areas, they cover well downfield. You have to be careful throwing the ball around. They're usually close to their man. They're two good additions to their defensive backfield."

Orakpo is within range of Jevon Kearse's rookie record of 14½ sacks set in 1999. He tied a franchise mark with four last weekend.

"He doesn't carry himself like a rookie, doesn't play like a rookie," middle linebacker London Fletcher said. "A lot of rookies, when they come in, they don't necessarily have the focus that you need to be successful in this league. When he is in the building, he is all about football."

Not every newbie has made a positive impact, though. For every sensational kick return by Harvin, there have been far too many bad throws by Stafford and Sanchez and Freeman. For all of Denver running back Knowshon Moreno's gallops, there have been Buffalo DE Aaron Maybin's gaffes.

And there have been the injuries, starting in training camp when offensive tackle Andre Smith ended a holdout and then broke his left foot during practice two days after signing. Stafford has a damaged left shoulder that has sidelined him, and Sanchez missed action because of a sprained right knee.

Seattle LB Aaron Curry (hip pointer), Lions TE Brandon Pettigrew (left knee) and Atlanta DT Peria Jerry (left knee) got hurt, with Pettigrew and Jerry gone for the season.

Coaches try to prepare their rookies for the long haul and the possibility of such negative situations, knowing all the while it's impossible.

One thing that hadn't been achieved in 50 years was done by Byrd. The second-round draft choice from Oregon had two interceptions in three successive games in October, becoming the first player to do so since Dave Baker in 1960. Byrd then set a franchise record by extending his interception streak to five games. He leads the league with nine interceptions.

"Any time you can lead the league in interceptions, I think that's big," Byrd says. "But like I've said before, with those interceptions I just wish we could've done more with them. It would've meant a lot more. But at the same time, it's cool."

Also cool is being the last guy drafted and then becoming a regular in the pros. Place-kicker Ryan Succop has gone from Mr. Irrelevant to someone very relevant in KC. "I like a lot of things about Ryan," Haley said. "He's got the demeanor you want from a kicker. He's calm, cool and collected, he doesn't seem to get rattled real easy."

Now that's the kind of rookie you want on your side.

Game Day

WEEK 15



EXPANDED STANDINGS

American Conference

				East								
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div	
New England	8	5	0	.615	348	234	7-0-0	1-5-0	5-4-0	3-1-0	3-2-0	
Miami	7	6	0	.538	292	306	4-2-0	3-4-0	5-4-0	2-2-0	4-2-0	
N.Y. Jets	7	6	0	.538	275	211	3-3-0	4-3-0	5-5-0	2-1-0	2-4-0	
Buffalo	5	8	0	.385	215	271	2-4-0	3-4-0	3-7-0	2-1-0	2-3-0	
South												
x-Indianapolis	14	0	0	1.000	394	248	7-0-0	7-0-0	10-0-0	4-0-0	6-0-0	
Jacksonville	7	7	0	.500	266	322	5-3-0	2-4-0	6-4-0	1-3-0	3-3-0	
Tennessee	6	7	0	.462	293	323	4-2-0	2-5-0	3-7-0	3-0-0	2-4-0	
Houston	6	7	0	.462	311	273	3-4-0	3-3-0	4-6-0	2-1-0	1-5-0	
North												
Cincinnati	9	4	0	.692	264	217	5-2-0	4-2-0	6-3-0	3-1-0	6-0-0	
Baltimore	7	6	0	.538	319	218	5-2-0	2-4-0	6-4-0	1-2-0	3-2-0	
Pittsburgh	6	7	0	.462	278	244	4-2-0	2-5-0	4-6-0	2-1-0	1-4-0	
Cleveland	2	11	0	.154	158	315	1-5-0	1-6-0	2-7-0	0-4-0	1-5-0	
West												
San Diego	10	3	0	.769	362	259	4-2-0	6-1-0	7-3-0	3-0-0	5-1-0	
Denver	8	5	0	.615	256	230	4-2-0	4-3-0	6-4-0	2-1-0	3-1-0	
Oakland	4	9	0	.308	155	316	2-5-0	2-4-0	3-6-0	1-3-0	1-4-0	
Kansas City	3	10	0	.231	206	342	1-6-0	2-4-0	2-7-0	1-3-0	1-4-0	

National Conference

				East								
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	NFC	AFC	Div	
Philadelphia	9	4	0	.692	372	273	4-2-0	5-2-0	8-2-0	1-2-0	4-1-0	
Dallas	8	5	0	.615	296	233	5-2-0	3-3-0	6-3-0	2-2-0	2-2-0	
N.Y. Giants	7	6	0	.538	341	320	4-3-0	3-3-0	5-4-0	2-2-0	3-2-0	
Washington	4	9	0	.308	234	251	3-3-0	1-6-0	2-8-0	2-1-0	0-4-0	
South												
x-New Orleans	13	0	0	1.000	466	274	6-0-0	7-0-0	9-0-0	4-0-0	4-0-0	
Atlanta	6	7	0	.462	302	305	5-2-0	1-5-0	5-6-0	1-1-0	2-3-0	
Carolina	5	8	0	.385	225	282	3-3-0	2-5-0	5-4-0	0-4-0	3-2-0	
Tampa Bay	1	12	0	.077	190	356	1-6-0	0-6-0	1-8-0	0-4-0	0-4-0	
North												
y-Minnesota	11	2	0	.846	389	243	7-0-0	4-2-0	8-1-0	3-1-0	5-0-0	
Green Bay	9	4	0	.692	344	243	5-2-0	4-2-0	7-3-0	2-1-0	4-2-0	
Chicago	5	8	0	.385	247	291	4-3-0	1-5-0	3-7-0	2-1-0	1-3-0	
Detroit	2	11	0	.154	209	406	2-4-0	0-7-0	1-8-0	1-3-0	0-5-0	
West												
Arizona	8	5	0	.615	306	258	3-3-0	5-2-0	6-3-0	2-2-0	3-2-0	
San Francisco	6	7	0	.462	269	242	5-2-0	1-5-0	5-4-0	1-3-0	4-1-0	
Seattle	5	8	0	.385	250	301	4-2-0	1-6-0	4-6-0	1-2-0	3-3-0	
St. Louis	1	12	0	.077	146	361	0-6-0	1-6-0	1-9-0	0-3-0	0-4-0	

x-clinched division
y-clinched playoff spot

GAMES ON AFN

(Times are Japan and Korea Standard)

Monday
San Francisco at Philadelphia
AFN-Atlantic, 3 a.m.

WR DeSean Jackson needs one more TD of 50-plus yards to set an NFL record for most in one season. He has eight.

New England at Buffalo
AFN-Xtra, 3 a.m.

QB Tom Brady is 14-1 against Bills with 102.6 passer rating. ... Brady is 170 passing yards shy of reaching 4,000 for the third time in his career.

Cincinnati at San Diego
AFN-Atlantic, 6 a.m.

The Bengals have dedicated their season to WR Chris Henry, who died Thursday. ... This will be the first game between the teams since the Chargers overcame two 21-point deficits to beat the Bengals 49-41 at Cincinnati in 2006.

Oakland at Denver
AFN-Xtra, 6 a.m.

Raiders P Shane Lechler's 51.4-yard average leads the league. ... The Raiders are 18-5 against Broncos in December. ... RB Darren McFadden had a career-high 84 yards receiving last week. McFadden scored two TDs in his last trip to Denver, a 31-10 victory by the Raiders.

REST OF THE SCHEDULE

Thursday's game
Indianapolis 35, Jacksonville 31

Saturday's game
Dallas at New Orleans

Sunday's games

Arizona at Detroit

Atlanta at N.Y. Jets

Houston at St. Louis

Chicago at Baltimore

Cleveland at Kansas City

Tampa Bay at Seattle

Green Bay at Pittsburgh
AFN-Sports, 6 a.m.

Packers QB Aaron Rodgers has been sacked a league-high 48 times; Steelers' Ben Roethlisberger is third with 38 sacks, eight vs. Cleveland.

Minnesota at Carolina
AFN-Sports, 10:15 a.m.

Vikings QB Brett Favre has 27 touchdown passes and six interceptions; Panthers Jake Delhomme and Matt Moore have combined for nine TDs and 20 picks.

Tuesday
N.Y. Giants at Washington

AFN-Sports, 10:30 a.m.

The Giants have allowed at least 21 points for eight straight weeks, including three games in which opponents scored 40 or more. ... New York is 2-6 during that span, falling to third in the NFC East. ... Redskins have 89 yards in punt returns this season, the only team below 100.

NEXT WEEK

Friday, Dec. 25

San Diego at Tennessee

Sunday, Dec. 27

Buffalo at Atlanta

Houston at Miami

Seattle at Green Bay

Carolina at N.Y. Giants

Baltimore at Pittsburgh

Tampa Bay at New Orleans

Oakland at Cleveland

Kansas City at Cincinnati

Jacksonville at New England

Detroit at San Francisco

St. Louis at Arizona

N.Y. Jets at Indianapolis

Denver at Philadelphia

Dallas at Washington

Monday, Dec. 28

Minnesota at Chicago

MARQUEE MATCHUP

Miami Dolphins (7-6) at Tennessee Titans (6-7)

3 a.m. Monday, Japan & Korea Standard, AFN-Sports

OPENING LINE — OFF

RECORD VS. SPREAD — Miami 7-6; Tennessee 6-7

SERIES RECORD — Dolphins lead 17-14

LAST MEETING — Dolphins beat Titans 13-10, Sept. 24, 2006

LAST WEEK — Dolphins beat Jaguars 14-10; Titans beat Rams 47-7

DOLPHINS OFFENSE — OVERALL (18), RUSH (3), PASS (26)

DOLPHINS DEFENSE — OVERALL (18), RUSH (14), PASS (22)

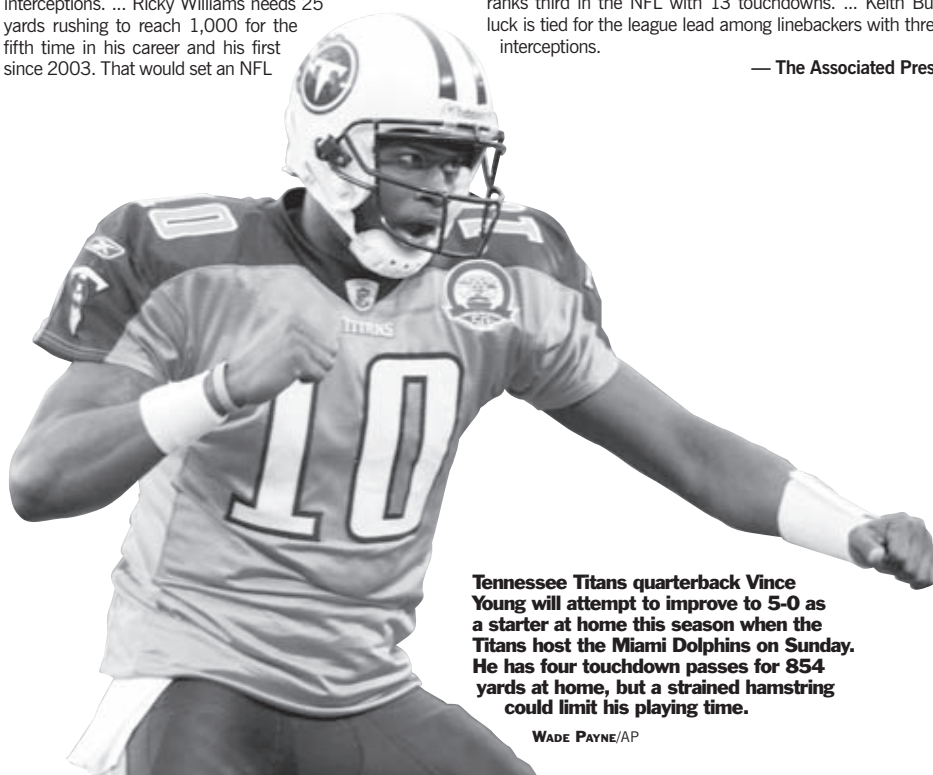
TITANS OFFENSE — OVERALL (11), RUSH (2), PASS (21)

TITANS DEFENSE — OVERALL (23), RUSH (7) PASS (31)

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES — The Dolphins are 6-0 in December under coach Tony Sparano. ... Chad Henne is 7-3 as a starter and has nine touchdown passes with eight interceptions. ... Ricky Williams needs 25 yards rushing to reach 1,000 for the fifth time in his career and his first since 2003. That would set an NFL

record for the longest span between 1,000-yard seasons at six. He also can become the seventh running back in NFL history to rush for more than 1,000 yards in a season when he was 32 years or older at the start of the schedule. ... WR Davone Bess leads the AFC and is second in the NFL with 30 third-down catches. ... DE Randy Starks has career-high six sacks. He was a third-round pick by Tennessee in 2004. ... The Titans are looking for their fifth straight victory at home. ... The Titans rank second in the NFL with 165.3 yards rushing per game. They have 2,149 yards rushing and are on pace for 2,644, which would top their franchise record of 2,635 set in 1980. ... Vince Young is 4-0 as a starter at home this season, where he is completing 69.1 percent of his passes for 854 yards with four TDs and one interception for a 107.3 passer rating. But he has hamstring issues. ... Chris Johnson has a franchise-record eight straight games with at least 100 yards rushing. He leads the NFL with a franchise-record 2,017 yards from scrimmage. ... Johnson ranks third in the NFL with 13 touchdowns. ... Keith Bullock is tied for the league lead among linebackers with three interceptions.

— The Associated Press



Tennessee Titans quarterback Vince Young will attempt to improve to 5-0 as a starter at home this season when the Titans host the Miami Dolphins on Sunday. He has four touchdown passes for 854 yards at home, but a strained hamstring could limit his playing time.

WADE PAYNE/AP

Grieving Bengals within reach of playoffs

If Cincinnati can overcome its emotions following the death of wide receiver Chris Henry, as well as the streaking San Diego Chargers, the Bengals will clinch just their second playoff spot in 19 years.

MATCHUP	STORYLINE	PICK
Bears at Ravens	Ravens still thinking wild card	Ravens 17-10
Patriots at Bills	With all their troubles, the Patriots still can handle Buffalo	Patriots 20-10
Cardinals at Lions	After Monday night's embarrassment, Cardinals need a patsy	Cardinals 31-13
Browns at Chiefs	Browns showing something on defense; Chiefs can't protect Matt Cassel	Browns 12-7
Falcons at Jets	Defenses might have to score in this one	Jets 13-10
49ers at Eagles	Can they show their mettle against NFC East leader? Not quite	Eagles 23-14
Packers at Steelers	Impossible to figure what's happened to Steelers	Packers 21-20
Texans at Rams	Rams seem destined to finish 1-15, too	Texans 27-7
Dolphins at Titans	Titans think they have a shot at playoffs. Dolphins know they have a shot	Dolphins 17-16
Raiders at Broncos	Broncos pretty much can salt away a playoff berth	Broncos 30-10
Bengals at Chargers	Winner clinches division. Chargers haven't lost in December since 2005	Chargers 24-21
Bucs at Seahawks	Bucs seem destined to finish 1-15	Seahawks 20-3
Vikings at Panthers	Vikings get the NFC North crown with a win	Vikings 27-10
Giants at Redskins	A loss by the Giants and they can kiss the postseason goodbye	Giants 20-9

AP

SPORTS



14 AND COUNTING
Manning's three TD passes
help Colts stay unbeaten
NFL Week 15, Page 38

ON FOOTBALL

Rookies are getting more opportunities to play in the NFL, and quite a few are showing in a big way they can handle it



THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

By BARRY WILNER
The Associated Press

Hey, rook, come over here and learn this encyclopedic playbook. Then get through two-a-days in the cauldron of summer training camp. See if you can beat out a veteran for his job, but make sure you're prepared for special-teams duty, as well.

Don't run out of steam after Thanksgiving, when you're accustomed to winding down in college. Oh, yeah, help us make the playoffs, too.

A lot to ask of newcomers in the NFL? Sure is.

Yet it's what rookies go through every year. With salary-cap restrictions, the multitude of formations being used on offense — and defense — and the frequency of injuries, those young men are getting more opportunities than ever to become a factor in the pros. This season, it's happened everywhere — both positively and distressingly.

"We've had really good drafts the past two years, so if you look at our group out there,

SEE ROOKIES ON PAGE 38

Three of the numerous rookies who have made an impact, clockwise from top: Bills ball-hawking defensive back Jairus Byrd; Chiefs field-goal kicker Ryan Succop, the last player chosen in the 2009 draft; and Vikings receiver/kick returner Percy Harvin.

Ed Zurga, top, Charlie Riedel, right, and Matt York/AP



For Cliff Lee, shock and disbelief at trade to Seattle Page 33

